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vol.7

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Yukie Nasu

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PARENTAL ADVISORY
HERE IS GREENWOOD is rated T+ for Older Teen and is recommended for ages 16 and up. This volume contains suggestive situations.

JUNIOR!

Here is Greenwood Guide to Honorifics

"sempai"
Used to address more senior members of an organization. In school, students in grades higher than the speaker are addressed as (their name here)*sempai*. The honorific used to address students in lower grades is *kohai*. These honorifics are used in many other Japanese institutions, such as company offices.

"Sempai/kohai relationship"
Since *Here is Greenwood* takes place in a school, the *sempai/kohai* relationship is a crucial aspect of the life of the students. It is much like a Western mentor/protégé relationship, but on a school-wide scale. *Sempai*, the senior students, are expected to look after the interests of their *kohai* and guide them, help them with their problems, give them referrals, and be their counselors. *Kohai* are expected to respect their *sempai*, do chores or menial tasks, follow orders, and learn.

Diminutives and nicknames
Like western nicknames, most Japanese nicknames are shortened versions of full names, sometimes with the honorific *-chan* or *-kun* tacked at the end. Sumire calls her husband "Hiro-kun," shortened from Kazuhiro-kun, similarly, she calls her brother-in-law "Yakkun," shortened and slightly changed from Kazuya-kun. "Suka-chan" (pronounced ska-chahn) is a similar diminutive taken from Hasukawa, except that the word "suka" is also a not-so-common insult approximately equivalent to "baka" (fool).

–William Flanagan

JUNIOR!

ONE DAY ...
DING DONG DING
HELLO?
HELLO?
KAZUYA? IT'S ME.
LET'S GO! LET'S GO! ♡
I HAVE FREE TICKETS TO THE ICE RINK. I WON'T BE ABLE TO GO, SO I THOUGHT I'D GIVE THEM TO YOU GUYS. ♡
THAT'S WHAT SHE SAID.
WHAT ABOUT YOU, SHINOBU?
FINE BY ME.

COME ON! SAY HI TO EVERYONE!
UWA
I'M MIDORI! NICE TO MEET YOU! ♡
MIDORI HASUKAWA (♀)
THIS ...
THIS IS TOO EASY.
O... SIMPLICITY... SO HONORABLE ...

...SINCE THE LAST TIME I WAS HOME.
THE HOUSE LOOKS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT...
THE ENTIRE PLACE SMELLS... STRANGELY PLEASANT.
※A BABY CAN COMPLETELY CHANGE EVERYTHING.
...IT'S REALLY GROWING INTO A HUMAN BEING.
ON ANOTHER NOTE...
Nap time!
APPLE
IT WAS LIKE AN EXTRATERRESTRIAL OBJECT. THAT'S ALL I COULD THINK AT THE TIME.
It's reddish, blackish and wrinkly.
UH... SURE ...
I named him Midori. Isn't he beautiful? ♡
LAST TIME I SAW HIM, HE WAS JUST BORN.

AGREED!
LET'S STOP BY HASUKAWA'S HOUSE AND CHECK OUT HIS NEW NEPHEW!
WE DON'T WANT TO TROUBLE HER.
Thanks for accepting my apol...
WHERE IS IT?
IT'S NEAR MY HOUSE.
LET'S GO THIS SUNDAY.
NO, WAIT.
I'LL CALL HER AND ASK HER TO SEND THE TICKETS OVER.
THUS ...
...EVERYONE GOT TO VISIT THE HASUKAWA HOUSEHOLD.
DON'T EVER LET HIM IN THE HOUSE, OKAY, SUMIRE?
Why ?
THE NEWSPAPER DELIVERYMAN IS SO NICE.
HE KEEPS GIVING ME THINGS. ♡
Hey, kiddo.

HUH?
YOU THINK SO TOO, HUH?
DOESN'T MIDORI LOOK LIKE SUIKA?
HIRO SAID THE SAME THING.
HE SAID MIDORI LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE KAZUYA DID WHEN HE WAS A BABY.
AAAA!
?
IS HE YOURS?
HIRO CAN DO EVERYTHING AROUND THE HOUSE. HE'S SUCH A BIG HELP.
Ooo, he's squeezing my finger!
IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE OF ALL THE PRACTICE HE GOT WITH YA-KUN!
HUH?
WAIT A MINUTE ...
One day, when you guys become dads, make sure to help your wives around the house too.
DOES THAT MEAN ...
Tee's on!
Their advice is a little early for us...

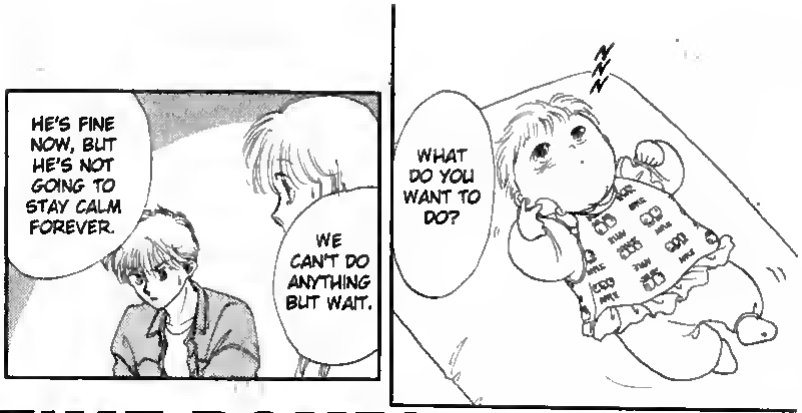
HOW COULD MITSURU'S BIRTH MOTHER HAVE ABANDONED HIM?
...SO SMALL...
HE'S SO...
SINCE I FOUND OUT, THERE HAVE BEEN SO MANY QUESTIONS I'VE WANTED TO ASK.
Idiot...
Sumire! Too much information!
Midori's small, so the labor wasn't too bad
I THINK ABOUT THAT A LOT LATELY.
Well she probably did it before he started looking like a person.
IT'S KIND OF UNFAIR.
LOOKING BACK, ACTUALLY, HE'S ALWAYS BEEN THAT WAY.
...I NEVER GET AN OPPORTUNITY TO ASK HIM.
BUT, MITSURU BEING MITSURU...

BECAUSE HE'S HER SON, HE'S BLEEP!!
AS SUMIRE'S SON, HE WILL SLEEP WITH HER, BATHE WITH HER, HE'LL BLEEP...
...IF HE'S GETTING BREAST-FED HE'LL BLEEP!
THIS LANGUAGE IS INAPPROPRIATE FOR A TEEN MANGA!
YOU SEEM TO BE TURNING A DEAF EAR TO THE TRUTH, BUT LET ME LAY IT OUT.
HFF
HFF
HFF
THERE'S NO NEED TO CRY
IS SOME-THING WRONG?
NOPE!
MIGHT BE HIS FIGHTING POSE.

Th..Ther can't be... Because of him, I'm...
SO TRUE.
I SEE. THE OLD MAN FINALLY REALIZES HE CAN'T STAY YOUNG FOREVER.
FROM A SON TO A LITTLE BROTHER
...I'VE CHANGED IN SUMIRE'S MIND FROM A...
...NOW?
THINK ABOUT IT.
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
HASUKAWA'S GOING TO LOSE HIS PLACE AT HOME.
UNTIL NOW, SUMIRE AND YOUR BROTHER FOCUSED THEIR ATTENTION ON YOU. NOW, WITH MIDORI IN THE PICTURE, YOU'LL HAVE TO SHARE THEM.
BUT ...
TO GIVE YOU A SPECIFIC EXAMPLE...YOUR BROTHER'S PROBABLY GOING TO GIVE YOUR ROOM TO MIDORI WHEN HE GETS BIGGER. IT'S A STRONG POSSIBILITY.
IT'S EASY TO ASSUME MIDORI CARRIES MORE WEIGHT THAN YOU.
...TO SUMIRE, MIDORI'S HER CHILD AND YOU'RE JUST HER HUSBAND'S BROTHER.

HUH?
YA-KUN, PLEASE LOOK AFTER MIDORI FOR ME! THANKS!
SHE'S ALL ALONE, SO I'M GOING OVER THERE.
SUMIRE!
W... WAIT...
TIC
TIC
TIC
LET ME CHECK NEXT DOOR.
SHE'S BEEN GONE FOR A WHILE.

RIING
RIING
COMING!
WHAT?
WHAT'S WRONG, MA'AM? ARE YOU OKAY?
HASUKAWA RESIDENCE.
MS. HAYASHI?
I GOT IT!
I'LL BE RIGHT OVER, SO DON'T MOVE!
SHE SAID SHE'S IN TOO MUCH PAIN TO GET UP!
OUR NEIGH-BOR FELL DOWN THE STAIRS!
IT'S AN EMER-GENCY!
TMP
TMP
TMP
WHAT'S WRONG?


HE'S FINE NOW, BUT HE'S NOT GOING TO STAY CALM FOREVER.
WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING BUT WAIT.
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?
NNN

TIME BOMB!

EVENTUALLY, HE'LL NOTICE SOMETHING'S WRONG AND START CRYING.
WHEN HE DOES ...

WELL, IN THAT CASE...
...I'LL MEET YOU AT THE RINK.

DING DONG
DING DONG
DING DONG
UM... HELLO?
THE DOORBELL'S ECHOING...
...
DING DONG
DING DONG

HOW IRRESPONSIBLE
I DON'T KNOW. IF THEY TOOK THE CAR, I'M SURE THEY WENT PRETTY FAR...
WHICH HOSPITAL?
SHE'S GONE?
THEY MUST'VE GONE TO THE HOSPITAL.
AH!
YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE THE BABY CRY!
KEEP IT DOWN!
SHE COULDN'T HELP IT! THE WOMAN NEXT DOOR IS A DRAMA QUEEN!
I'M SURE SUMIRE PANICKED!

I'VE NEVER REALLY BABYSAT YUI...
BUT YOU'VE LOOKED AFTER HER, RIGHT? THIS IS ONLY THE SECOND TIME I'VE SEEN MIDORI!
I LIVE IN A DORM, SO I DON'T SEE YUI MUCH, EITHER...
ARE YOU GUYS TRYING TO ABANDON A BABY?
ARE YOU REALLY THAT COLD-BLOODED?
WE'RE NOT ABANDONING A BABY. WE'RE ABANDONING HASUKAWA.
IT MAKES SENSE FOR YOU TO STAY AND LOOK AFTER IT.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WANTED TO SEE THE KID.
SEMPAI! I'LL STAY!
WHAT KIND OF COLD-BLOODED JOKERS ARE YOU?
YOU CALL YOURSELVES HUMAN?
SHAA
MY BLOOD IS GREEN

I'LL WAIT.
I'm sure there'll be a cafe
BUT WE HAVEN'T GOTTEN THE TICKETS YET!
NO FAIR!
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!
SHINO-BU!
THAT'S SO COLD!
HE'S RIGHT.
THIS IS HASUKAWA'S PROBLEM. THERE'S NO REASON TO DRAG US INTO IT.
HOW WOULD WE HELP THE SITUA-TION?
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO BY MYSELF?
SUMIRE ASKED HASUKAWA, AND THIS IS HASUKAWA'S HOUSE. AND THAT THING IS HASUKAWA'S NEPHEW.
OH, CRAP!
YOU HAVE A BABY SISTER, RIGHT?
SHUN!
NONE OF US HAS EVER CARED FOR A BABY, SO WE DON'T CONTRIBUTE ANYTHING BY BEING HERE.

MIDORI!
ARGH! HE'S CRYING!
WAAA
SETTLE DOWN, KID!
WAAA

THE GIRL HAS TO STAY IN A DARK ROOM ALL DAY.
THE SEIZURES ARE TRIGGERED BY LIGHT AND SUDDEN SOUNDS.
ISOLATED WARD
WHENEVER SHE GETS A SEIZURE, SHE SCREAMS AT THE TOP OF HER LUNGS.
SHE BITES DOWN ON HER TONGUE AND BLOOD COMES DRIPPING OUT OF HER MOUTH.
THERE'S A SCENE WHERE SHE'S IN THE HOSPITAL AND A CART FULL OF DISHES IS PASSING IN FRONT OF HER ROOM.
THE TENSION KEEPS RISING, AND THEN...
YOU JUST KNOW THEY'RE GOING TO FALL.
IT'S REALLY TENSE BECAUSE YOU CAN ANTICIPATE WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN.
YOU START WORRYING THAT THE DISHES ARE GOING TO FALL.
...JUST AS EXPECTED
TWITCH

OH!
TIC
TIC
TIC
TIC
TIC
TIC
SHING...
I JUST REMEMBERED A SCENE FROM A MOVIE I SAW THE OTHER DAY.
SHH!
WHAT IS IT?
IT'S ABOUT A GIRL WHO GETS TETANUS.
IS IT A HORROR FLICK?
NO, IT'S MUCH SCARIER!
IT WAS ON TV. IT WAS CALLED "THE TREMBLING TONGUE."
SHH
WHAT A SCARY MOVIE.

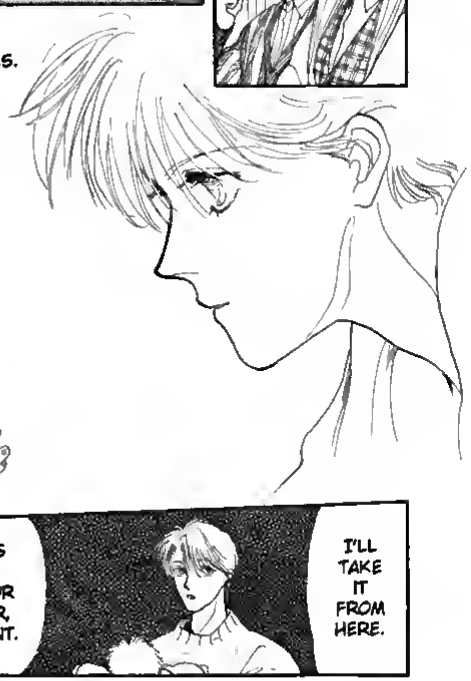
TINK
I'M AT THE HOSPITAL RIGHT NOW. I'LL BE HOME SOON.
HELLO? YA-KUN? I'M SO SORRY!
I'M REALLY SORRY.
HIC
HOW'S MIDORI? IS HE BEING A GOOD...
OH, NO! IS HE CRYING?
YEAH... HE WAS JUST ABOUT TO...
WAAA
WAAAA
LIGH

RING
...IT SLAMS—
ALIGH! THAT SCARED THE CRAP OUT OF ME!
IT'S YOUR OWN FAULT!
RING RING
HASUKAWA! YOU NEED TO UPGRADE YOUR PHONE!
HELLO? HASUKAWA RESI-DENCE...
S... SEMPAI ...
WHAT?
GEEZ ...
RING
JUST ANSWER IT, ALREADY!
THEN GET A PHONE WITH VOICE MAIL!
DEFIANT
RING
WHAT'S WRONG WITH AN OLD DUAL PHONE?
I HATE THOSE PORTABLE PHONES THAT LOOK LIKE TOYS!

FUGYA FUGYA FUGYA FUGYA FUGYA
COME DOWN FROM NIRVANA!
EGYAAA
WHAT? YOU WANT ME TO DO IT?
DAMN RIGHT! HE'S YOUR NEPHEW!
WAAAAA
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
HE WON'T STOP!
SO I SEE!
APPLE
APPLE
GREAK
I'M HOME.
WAAAAA
NGYAAA

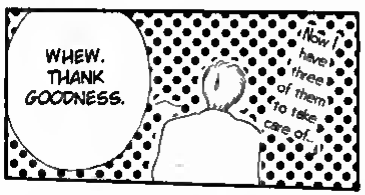
AAAAAAA
YEAH, BUT WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO UNTIL THEN?
SHE SAID SHE'D BE BACK SOON!
OKAY! OKAY!
STOP CRYING!
ANGYAA
YOU'RE HOLDING HIM WEIRD, SEMPAI!
HUH?
THERE WE GO.
AAAAA
LOOK FOR A BABY BOOK, TOO!
IT'LL EXPLAIN HOW TO CHANGE DIAPERS!
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO KNOW WHERE THEY ARE?
HASUKAWA! GET THE DIAPERS!
HUH? UH....
WAAAAA
SHIF
SHIF
HIS DIAPER'S WET.
SAY WHAT?
NGYAA

HOW DOES HE HAVE THAT MUCH STRENGTH IN HIM?
WELL...
...THAT'S WHAT BABIES ARE MADE FOR.


YES.
TO SCREAM OUT LOUD TO SHOW THEY'RE ALIVE.

YOU GUYS CAN GO SKATING OR WHATEVER, IF YOU WANT.
I'LL TAKE IT FROM HERE.

A good husband keeps his word.
I TOLD HER I'D BE HOME AROUND NOON.
I'M SURE SHE FIGURED YOU GUYS COULD LEAVE WHEN I GOT HERE.
SENSEI!
HUH?


WHEW. THANK GOODNESS.
Now I have three of them to take care of.

I WAS WORRIED HE MIGHT DIE.
HE'S SO SMALL, BUT HE'S SO LOUD WHEN HE CRIES.

I'm amazed that you survived.
GOOD JOB, GUYS.
I'LL TALK TO HER.
WHEW...

WITCHES ON ICE

I'M REALLY SORRY.
HUH? ICE SKATING?
OH!
The local hospital was closed, so we had to go to another one
SORRY, YA-KUN!
... WE DON'T HAVE THE ...
YEAH, BUT ...
WHERE'S MIDORI?
FWP
I'M SORRY. I HAD IT IN MY BAG!
THUS THEY WERE ABLE TO GO SKATING.
I'm sorry!
ICE PALACE

JUNIOR: THE END

WITCHES ON ICE

WHOA!
ZP
SHA
SHA
COME TO THINK OF IT...
ONLY SKATED ONCE IN HIGH SCHOOL.
HASN'T SKATED SINCE 8TH GRADE.
CHIT
WHOA!
YEAH! YOU'RE REALLY GOOD, SHINOBU! ♡
CLAP CLAP CLAP
SHOWOFF ...
NEXT TIME, LET'S GO SKIING.

WOW! EEE! NAKAGAWA ICE PALACE
WHY WOULD I ASK THEM HERE IF I COULDN'T SKATE?
ZWA
HEY! SUKA-CHAN!
YOU CAN SKATE?
SORRY I CAN'T BE YOUR TOY THIS TIME!
BUT... THEN AGAIN...

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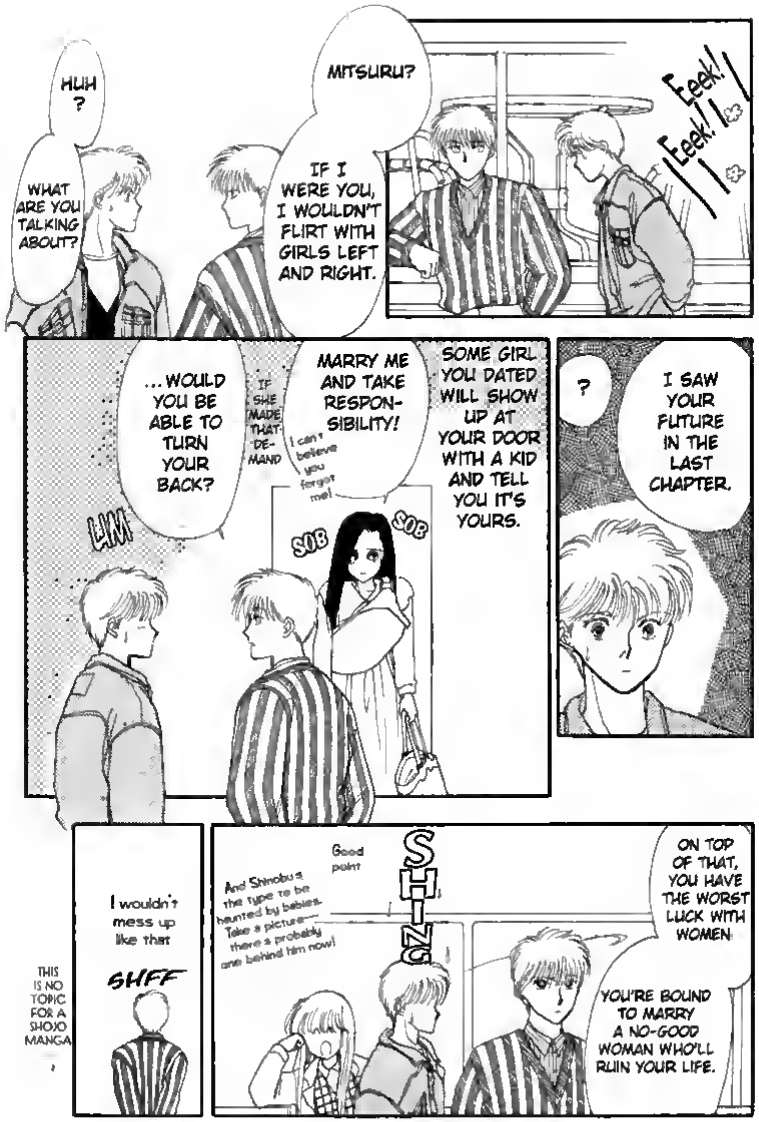

HUH?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
MITSURU?
IF I WERE YOU, I WOULDN'T FLIRT WITH GIRLS LEFT AND RIGHT.
Eek! Eek!
...WOULD YOU BE ABLE TO TURN YOUR BACK?
IF SHE MADE THAT DEMAND
MARRY ME AND TAKE RESPONSIBILITY!
I can't believe you forgot me!
SOB SOB
SOME GIRL YOU DATED WILL SHOW UP AT YOUR DOOR WITH A KID AND TELL YOU IT'S YOURS.
?
I SAW YOUR FUTURE IN THE LAST CHAPTER.
I wouldn't mess up like that
SHFF
THIS IS NO TOPIC FOR A SHOJO MANGA
And Shinobu's the type to be haunted by babies. Take a picture— there's probably one behind him now!
Good point
SHIZU
ON TOP OF THAT, YOU HAVE THE WORST LUCK WITH WOMEN.
YOU'RE BOUND TO MARRY A NO-GOOD WOMAN WHO'LL RUIN YOUR LIFE.

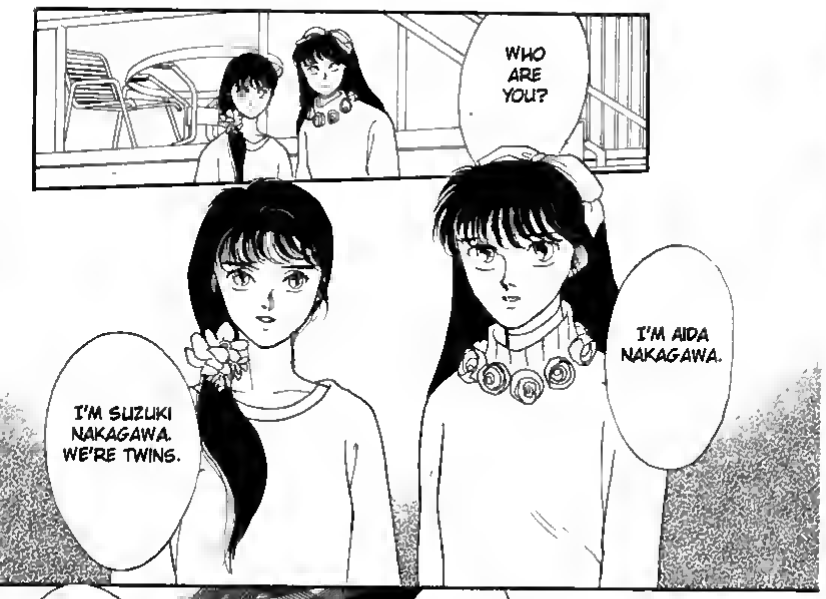
THUD
WHOA!
EEK!
OOO
Sorry!
OH! SORRY ABOUT THAT!
ARE YOU OKAY?
Y... YES.

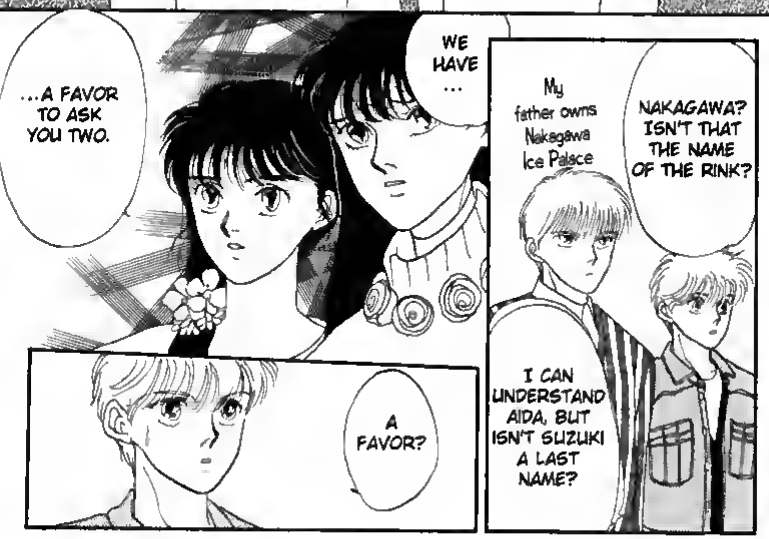
EXCUSE ME.
GOOD LUCK/BAD LUCK
Hmm..
FROM THE LADY OVER THERE.
HAVE WE MET BEFORE?
I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU. YOU'RE VERY GOOD.
DO YOU THINK ...
...YOU COULD SKATE WITH ME?

FWUP
EEEK!
HUH?
WHO'S GOT BAD LUCK WITH WOMEN?
A BIT WORRIED.
HOW DARE HE MAKE MY OUTLOOK SO DARK?
ARE YOU HURT?
I WAS PRACTICING MY JUMPS AND WASN'T PAYING ATTENTION.
...
I'M SORRY.
PLOP
N...
NO...

NO FAIR! THEY PICKED UP HOT GIRLS WITHOUT US!
HUH?
MIT-SURU ...
SHI-NOBU, TOO...
WHAT!?
THE GIRLS ARE AT IT AGAIN.
MY, MY ...
HUH?

I WAS WONDERING WHERE YOU'D DISAPPEARED TO...
INFIRMARY
IT'LL BE MY PLEASURE.
HE HAS A LIGHT CONCUSSION, BUT HE'LL BE FINE.
THANKS TO YOU, I WAS CRUSHED UNDER A GIGANTIC WALRUS!
I thought I was going to die!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO PUSHED ME!
WHY ARE YOU SO CLUMSY, SUKA-CHAN?
AAAAA!
...


WHO ARE YOU?
I'M AIDA NAKAGAWA.
I'M SUZUKI NAKAGAWA. WE'RE TWINS.


...A FAVOR TO ASK YOU TWO.
WE HAVE ...
A FAVOR?
My father owns Nakagawa Ice Palace
NAKAGAWA? ISN'T THAT THE NAME OF THE RINK?
I CAN UNDERSTAND AIDA, BUT ISN'T SUZUKI A LAST NAME?

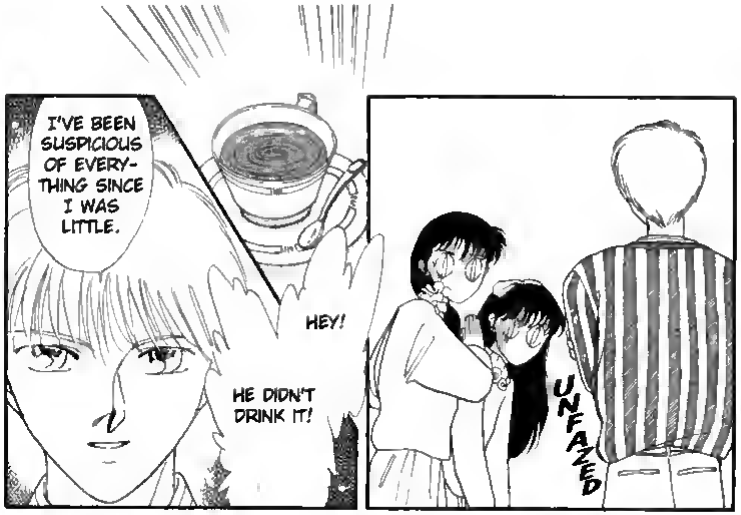
HOW TALL ARE YOU?
HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN SKATING?
YOU'RE REALLY GOOD.
WHAT YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL ARE YOU IN?
HOW MUCH DO YOU WEIGH?
I JUST SKATE FOR FUN.
FWISH
Hey
OY...
IF HE'S INVOLVED ...
...I'VE GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS.
No kidding.

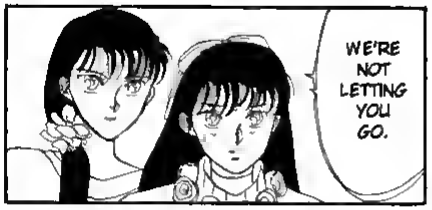
AIDA AND I...
YOU KNOW WE'RE BEGINNERS.
OKAY...
...BUT WHY ARE YOU ASKING US?
IT'S NOT AN IMPOSSIBLE DREAM. THERE ARE SO FEW PAIR SKATERS IN JAPAN THAT WE COULD BECOME NATIONAL CHAMPIONS.
That's what it said in Silver Romantic... hee hee...
TO PUT IT BLUNTLY, WE HAVE TALENT.
WE WANT TO BECOME FIGURE-SKATING PAIR CHAMPIONS!
THEN SHOULDN'T YOU LOOK IN SKATING CLUBS OR...
BUT IN ORDER TO ACCOMPLISH THAT, WE NEED GOOD PARTNERS.
YOU'RE WRONG!

COME.
FOLLOW US THIS WAY.
NO CAN DO.
BRING BACK MOTHRA.
Yeah. Yeah.
SERIOUSLY. PLEASE LISTEN TO US
COME...
YES, THAT'S RIGHT.
THAT'S IT?
YOU WANT US AS YOUR FIGURE-SKATING PARTNERS?
EMPLOYEES ONLY

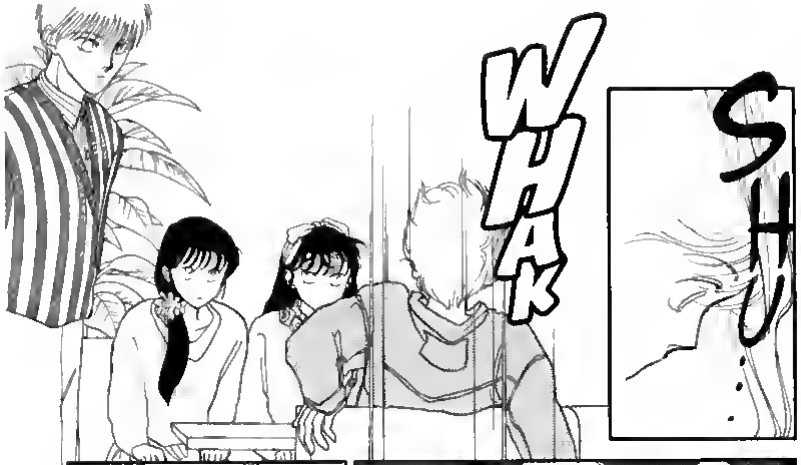
You can't take every offer that comes your way.
IT'S NOT MY SPEED.
...
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
WHY DON'T YOU GO FOR IT?
I'M SORRY, BUT...
BUT WHY?
SORRY. IT WAS NICE TO MEET YOU.
...I HAVE OTHER THINGS TO DO.
AND I'M NOT INTERESTED IN SPORTS.
UMM.. SAME HERE...
TAK
I SEE ...
...

... LOOKS!
AND LONG LEGS!
AND YOU TWO HAVE TALENT!
YOU CAN GET BETTER IF YOU PRACTICE.
BUT WHAT REALLY COUNTS ARE...
AND WE FINALLY FOUND YOU! BOTH OF YOU AT ONCE!
WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR SOMEONE BEAUTIFUL AND PROMISING TO VISIT THIS RINK!
WE'VE ALREADY LOOKED FOR PARTNERS IN THE ATHLETIC WORLD. NOTHING! NOW WE'RE HOPING TO RECRUIT PEOPLE WHO SKATE FOR A HOBBY.
SO PLEASE BE OUR PARTNERS!
BESIDES ...
...I THINK YOU TWO ARE A GOOD MATCH FOR US. IT'S NECESSARY FOR PARTNERS TO HAVE FEELINGS FOR EACH OTHER, LIKE HUSBAND AND WIFE.





THUD THUD



OH, AND WE'RE GOING TO GET ENGAGED. IT'LL BE THE RESPONSIBLE THING TO DO, AFTER YOU SPEND THE NIGHT WITH US.
YOU'RE GOING TO SIGN A CONTRACT TO JOIN OUR CLUB.

◇THIS STORY IS FICTION. NO CHARACTER IS BASED ON ANYONE FROM REALITY. PLEASE DO NOT COMPARE TO REAL PEOPLE

WE COULDN'T FIND ANYONE WHO WAS BETTER THAN AIDA AND SUZUKI!
SOB
IT'S TRUE.
WE'VE DECEIVED MANY MEN THUS FAR.
BUT ...
...WE DIDN'T MEAN TO DECEIVE THEM. WE... WE JUST WANTED...
BUT THE MORE WE PRACTICED, THE MORE I REALIZED I WAS BETTER MATCHED WITH AIDA.
THAT'S WHY WE...
THE MEN WERE ALWAYS WONDERFUL, AND WE SEEMED TO BE GOOD TOGETHER.
I ALWAYS THOUGHT AT FIRST THAT WE COULD PAIR...
SOB SOB SOB
...HOPPED FROM MAN TO MAN AND...

ARGH! MITSURU!
SEMPAI! WE WERE WARNED ABOUT THESE TWO AT THE INFIRMARY!
THEY SEDUCE HANDSOME GUYS ONE AFTER ANOTHER, MAKE THEM BECOME THEIR PARTNERS, AND DITCH THEM ONCE THEY BECOME USELESS. THEY'RE THE "ICE PRINCESSES"!
SLAM
SEMPAI! ARE YOU OKAY?
WAIT UNTIL I RECOVER! I'LL BECOME A FIRST-RATE SKATER!
AIDA, I STILL BELIEVE YOU!
NUMEROUS MEN'S LIVES HAVE BEEN RUINED!
TAE
WHAT A HEART-WARMING TALE.
Aida!
Dump him!
Suzuki!
You need to learn when to let go.
When do you see in him?

...WHY DOESN'T ONE OF YOU GET A SEX CHANGE?
LATER...
◊THIS STORY IS FICTION NO CHARACTER OR ORGANIZATION IS BASED ON REALITY SO PLEASE IGNORE IT COMPLETELY.
WHAT A GREAT IDEA!

COMPARED TO YOUR TWIN SISTER, WE MIGHT NOT BE AS GOOD, BUT...
I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD OVERLOOK THE DRUGGING.
SOB
HIC
YEAH YEAH
WHY DON'T YOU GIRLS JUST COMPETE IN SINGLES?
IT WOULD BE WONDERFUL...
...IF I COULD PAIR WITH MY SISTER..
WELL, THEY'D HAVE TO BEAT...
...MIDORI ITO AND JUNKO YAGINUMA.
WAAA
THEN...

HERE IS EDO

NO ONE KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT THEY DECIDED TO DO.
FRED, YOU SHOULD JOIN US NEXT TIME!
YES ...
...ONCE IT GETS WARMER.
OPTION I: SEX CHANGE!
EVERY TIME A FIGURE-SKATING COMPETITION IS HELD SOMEWHERE, THE FOUR GUYS GET A LITTLE BIT SCARED.
I KNOW THIS IS SUDDEN, BUT THE NEXT CHAPTER WILL BE A SPECIAL EPISODE, TO AVOID FURTHER WINTER-BREAK STORYLINES.
HERE'S YOUR COS-TUMES!
I doubt we're going to graduate this year.
HMMM ...
STRAW CHEST

WITCHES ON ICE: THE END

HERE IS
EDO

OW!
TAKE THAT!
BAH
WHY, YOU...
I GOT HIM!
DASH
THUD
WHEW
HUFF HUFF
...
HUFF
HUFF

SPRINGTIME IN THE EDO PORT DISTRICT.
YOU'RE UNDER ARREST, RAT!
SURRENDER TO THE LAW!
BE
YOU MONSTER!
PIII
YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!
WAIT!
◇"RAT KID" JIROKICHI 1797?~1832
THE FAMOUS THIEF WHO ROBBED FROM THE RICH AND GAVE TO THE POOR. THIS LOOK IS THE MAYUMI OGAWA TV VERSION
WHUP

Got it
NORMALLY I CAN CHANGE QUICKLY AND GET AWAY...
...BUT WITH A MARK LIKE THIS ON MY FACE...
COME ON! STOP TOUCHING ME!
HA HA HA HA HA!
I WAS SURPRISED. I THOUGHT RAT KID WAS A WOMAN.
YOU'RE A GUY.
A DEAD BODY?
A FOREIGN-ER!
He's a foreigner!
HEY...
HE'S...

I...I'M ON THE JOB!
GREETINGS, OFFICER OF HACHOBORI.
NO. I DIDN'T SEE ANY-ONE.
DID SOMEONE SUSPICIOUS COME THIS WAY?
THANKS! I OWE YOU ONE. ♡
ANY-TIME.
I...I SEE... SORRY TO INTRUDE!
COME TO THINK OF IT, THOUGH, I HEARD FOOTSTEPS IN THAT DIRECTION...
He looks like a kid or a grown-up wannabe
Over there! Find him!
You're under arrest!
Arrest him!

SIGH
THIS ALL STEMS FROM THE NEW LORD...
A GIFT FROM ME TO YOU.
LATELY, THIS POLICE FORCE HAS BEEN SHIRKING ITS DUTIES!
IT'S SPONGE CAKE.
I WAS TOLD YOU PICKED UP A TASTE FOR FANCY WESTERN TREATS IN NAGASAKI.
OH ...
CHOUSHIROU HIRAMATSU, LORD OF MINAMI MACHI, JUST BACK FROM VISITING NAGASAKI.
YOU'RE AOKIYA, YES?
I see
HEH
HEH
HEH
I HOPE TO HAVE YOUR FAVOR.

MINAMI MACHI POLICE STATION
HEY, HE'S STILL ALIVE!
LET'S PULL HIM OUT OF THE WATER!
HE'S ELUDED US THREE TIMES THIS YEAR!
IF WE CATCH HIM, THE PEASANTS WILL HATE US.
BUT THE RAT IS ON THE PEASANTS' SIDE.
AT THIS RATE, THE PEOPLE ARE GOING TO LOSE THEIR FAITH IN US!
HOW CAN WE KEEP THE PEACE OF EDO WITH SUCH AN ATTITUDE?

FIRST OF ALL, WHY IS HE IN THIS COUNTRY?
KREEK
SORRY TO INTRUDE!
☆GUEST EXTRAS
WHO ARE YOU GUYS? HOW DARE YOU INTRUDE INTO MY HOUSE?
SETTLE DOWN, OKYO.
WE HEARD OUR GUEST WAS AT YOUR HOUSE, SO WE CAME TO GET HIM.
RIGHT?
OKAY!
COME ON!
HAND HIM OVER!
SLAP

I'M HOME!
TOKIWAZU MONJI KYO
KREEK
WE SUBORDI-NATES MUST STAY STRONG.
HOW'S THE FOREIGNER DOING?
NOT GOOD.
Because his skin is so dark, it's hard to tell if he is flushed.
SORRY TO LEAVE YOU ALONE.
I GOT MEDICINE ON MY WAY BACK, AFTER I HANDED OUT THE GOLD COINS.
THANKS.
...BUT HE'S NOT WEAK FROM FALLING INTO THE RIVER.
HE WAS PROBABLY WEAKENED BY SOMETHING BEFORE.

DASH
Oh, really? That's so cool.
My family's from Hatemoto
So strong! What a hunk! ♡
DASH DASH
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
RUN!
KID OFFICER.
YOU'RE THE...
CRAP!
YOU GUYS ARE ...
WHO WERE THOSE GUYS?
WHAT'S WRONG ?
OH, JUST MY SICK FATHER...
WHO'S THAT?

SAME GOES FOR YOU. YOU DON'T WANT TO GET HURT, DO YOU?
A FOREIGNER, A GUEST IN EDO?
IF THE HIGHER-UPS HEAR OF THIS, YOU'LL REGRET IT.
GET HIM!
WHAT ?
WHY, YOU ...
BOSS!
THE POLICE!
BAM
SLAM
Not many pages left

THAT'S GREAT!
HE SPEAKS JAPANESE ?
OFFICER..
HEY! HEY! WAIT!
WE'RE ON YOUR SIDE.
TELL US WHAT HAPPENED.
MY NAME IS HANFUKI.
LAST NIGHT ...
JUST FORCE OF HABIT...
THAT'S MY JOB!
WHY ARE YOU QUESTIONING HIM?

I'M SORRY. BY THE WAY ...
WHAT? WHY DIDN'T YOU REPORT IT?
WE PULLED HIM OUT OF THE RIVER AFTER WE SAW YOU LAST NIGHT.
IT'S A FOREIGNER!
OFFI-CER.
WHAT ?
...THE GUYS WHO WERE JUST HERE CLAIMED THAT THIS FOREIGNER WAS THEIR GUEST.
I KNOW!
SOME-THING'S FISHY HERE.
◇KOISHIKAWA HOSPITAL, 1772
A PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND A REGULAR FEATURE IN THE DOKA ECHIZEN TV SERIES.
THE FOREIGNER IS AWAKE.
SHU
TAKE HIM TO THE HOSPITAL AT KOISHIKAWA!
LET'S GET HIM TO A DOCTOR FIRST.
HOSPITAL

KANDAYA IS DOING ILLEGAL IMPORTING AND EXPORTING.
HE BRIBES HATAKEYAMA TO LOOK THE OTHER WAY.
THAT CAN'T BE.
HOW COULD KANDAYA BE CONNECTED TO MASTER HATAKE-YAMA?
WHEN KANDAYA WAS DISTRACTED BY A ROBBERY OUTSIDE, I HIT HIM ON THE HEAD AND FLED.
THE POLICE CHIEF?
MASTER HATAKE-YAMA?
I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH PAGES TO EXPLAIN IT!
AUTHOR
I DON'T KNOW.
HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?
ILLEGAL SHIP-MENTS!
POLICE
ATION
LORD! ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?
◇ ILLEGAL SHIPMENTS: A COMMON CRIME OF CROOKED MERCHANTS. THEY IMPORT ILLEGAL ITEMS OR SELL OVER THE ALLOWED AMOUNT. IT'S COMMON PRACTICE FOR MERCHANTS TO BRIBE OFFICIALS TO LOOK THE OTHER WAY. PLOTS TO GET A GOVERNMENT PROMOTION ARE TYPICALLY INVOLVED AS WELL.
HANFUKI!
GET A HOLD OF YOUR-SELF!
UH ...

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
KANDAYA OWNS A MAJOR KAISEN-DONYA.*
*HE LOOKS LIKE A RONIN, BUT HE OWNS A LARGE COMPANY
*KAISENDONYA. A SHIP THAT TRANSPORTS GOODS, OR A SHIPPING COMPANY.
...I FLED FROM KANDAYA.
I WAS BROUGHT TO NAGASAKI IN A DUTCH SHIP.
KANDAYA BOUGHT ME FROM A MERCHANT IN NAGASAKI.
I'VE BEEN LOCKED UP SINCE THEN, BUT LAST NIGHT THE OWNER OF KANDAYA ...
I bet he thought Fred wouldn't understand.
KANDAYA SAID TO ME...
GIVE UP AND OBEY MY ORDERS!
I hate this role
...YOU'RE GOING TO BE PRESENTED TO THE POLICE CHIEF ANYWAY.
◇ POLICE CHIEF—BAD GUY
...TRIED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ME!

DOC-TOR!
OFFI-CER ...
!
WHAT THE ...
OFFICER ...
JUST NOW, A BUNCH OF YAKUZA BROKE IN...
...AND TOOK HANFUKI!
WHAT?
I SUSPECT HE'S GOING TO PRESENT HANFUKI AND OTHER GOODS TO THE POLICE CHIEF THERE.
OFFI-CER!
KANDAYA IS MEETING AN IMPORTANT GUEST AT A RESTAURANT IN MUKOJIMA TONIGHT!
WHAT?
DAMN!
WE WERE TOO LATE!
GUYS...

I PRAISE YOU FOR DESPISING CRIME...
...BUT SOME SITUATIONS MAY LEAD TO YOUR DEMISE.
HASU-KAWA.
YES?
YOU SHOULD START THINKING ABOUT YOURSELF.
HUH?
MY LORD.
BUT ...
I CANNOT AFFORD TO LOSE A YOUNG COMRADE LIKE YOU. LISTEN TO ME.
THIS IS NOT SOMEONE YOU WANT TO MESS WITH.
I KNEW I COULDN'T COUNT ON MY LORD.
I HAVE TO DO SOME-THING ABOUT THIS MYSELF!
KNOCK
DOCTOR!
I SEE.
THIS JUST ARRIVED.
PLEASE EXCUSE ME!

I SEE. I SEE.
NOW, NOW. DON'T BE SO GREEDY. EVERYTHING IN MODERATION...
I'D LIKE YOUR SUPPORT IN GETTING THE EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS.
GOOD.
SOUNDS LIKE YOUR BUSINESS IS DOING WELL.
HERE'S THIS MONTH'S GIFT.
YES, THANK YOU.
BY THE WAY, MASTER HATAKE-YAMA...
YOU SCOUN-DREL!
AHAHAH!
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D HEAR THAT FROM YOU.
I SEE. I LOOK FORWARD TO IT.
...I WAS ABLE TO GET MY HANDS ON A RARE ITEM IN NAGASAKI THE OTHER DAY. I'D LOVE FOR YOU TO HAVE IT.
I'M SURE YOU'LL BE PLEASED.
HAVE A LOOK...
!

BUT HANFUKI ...
OFFICER.
STOP! THIS IS THE POLICE CHIEF!
BUT...
YOU HAVE NO AUTHORITY OVER HIM. YOU MIGHT EVEN GET FIRED!
...
WHO ARE YOU GUYS?
I PROMISE WE'LL RESCUE HANFUKI!
LEAVE THIS TO US.
JUST AN ORDINARY RONIN...
...AND THE MASTER SENSEI AT TOKIWAZU.

THERE ARE TYPICALLY TWO FIGHT SCENES IN A ONE-HOUR TV DRAMA.
APPARENTLY, IT'S POPULAR IN RECENT TV SERIES TO MAKE THE MAIN CHARACTER'S UNDERWEAR PEEK OUT OF HIS KIMONO FOR THE ENJOYMENT OF THE FEMALE FANS.
IT'S ALSO COMMON TO DRAG THE UNRAVELING OF THE PLOT INTO THE FINAL FIGHT SCENE.
DON'T THINK YOU CAN GET AWAY WITH THIS!
BUT THE LORD IS ON MY SIDE.
TAK
SLURP!
SLURP SLURP
CURSE YOU!

POLICE CHIEF HATAKEYAMA! KAISENDONYA KANDAYA!
WE HEARD ALL YOUR EVIL SCHEMING!
SHUK
DON'T LET THEM GET AWAY!
CURSE YOU! INTRUD-ERS!
GUARDS! WE HAVE INTRUD-ERS!
GOTCHA!
TAKE HANFUKI SOMEWHERE SAFE!

AAAA!
NO!
LORD HIRA-MATSU!
You deceived me!
SLA
SH
DON'T MIND ME. IT'S MY HOBBY.
I DON'T THINK YOU HAD TO KILL HIM...
Ahh. That felt good.
THUD

WHO'S THERE?
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
TAKING ADVANTAGE OF YOUR POSITION TO DO SUCH EVIL DEEDS... THE LORD MAY FORGIVE YOU, BUT I WON'T!
INTRUD-ER! HOW DARE YOU SPEAK TO ME LIKE THAT?
I AM THE LAW WHO WORKS IN THE SHADOWS.
SHAA
MASTER HATAKE-YAMA.
HAVE YOU...
...FOR-GOTTEN THIS FACE?

THE STORM BREWS

THANKS TO THE LORD, THE FOREIGNER RETURNED TO NAGASAKI AND THEN TO HIS HOME COUNTRY.
THUS EDO WAS NO LONGER PLAGUED BY EVIL.
MY LORD, PLEASE INVESTIGATE THE DEATH OF KANDAYA!
THE LORD CONTINUED TO CATCH EVILDOERS BY ACTING IN THE SHADOWS
LATER, A HANDSOME CANDY MERCHANT CAUSED A STIR IN THE YUSHIMA AREA.
OKYO MOVED WITHOUT TELLING ANYONE.
CASE CLOSED!
TETSU, THE RONIN WHO NEVER SHOWED HIS CHERRY-BLOSSOM TATTOO, WOULD LATER BE KNOWN AS HEIZO HASEGAWA, THE HEAD OF THE ANTI-ARSON SQUAD FOR THE BAKUFU GOVERNMENT.
HEIZO HASEGAWA 1745 ~ 1795
HE TRAINED MANY SPIES.
UM.. THE DATES DON'T MATCH AT ALL...
Hasegawa joined the anti-arson squad before Onihei and Ran Kid were even born.
DON'T SWEAT THE DETAILS.

THIS IS EDO: THE END

THE STORM
BREWS

WHAT'S GOING ON?
BY THE TIME WE GET TO OUR ROOM, WE'RE FREEZING.
I here old buildings.
HEY.
WHAT IS IT? WHAT IS IT?
YOU'RE HURTING ME! LET GO!
A VISITOR ?
THERE'S A VISITOR.
TAP
PISS OFF!
HUH?
WHAT DID I DO?

THE FIRST SNOWFALL OF THE YEAR THAT NIGHT AT GREENWOOD...
...THE CURTAINS WERE QUIETLY OPENING...
IT'S STARTING TO SNOW!
...THEY'D PUT A HEATER IN THE HALL-WAY?
DON'T YOU WISH ...
FUU FUU
BATHROOM
Sorry for the wait!
GIVE US A BREAK!

FIRST OF ALL ...
WHAT ?
YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME.
YEAH, GO HELP THE WOMAN. BE A MAN.
ME?
SUKA-CHAN, YOU'RE THE DORM HEAD. DO SOMETHING!
.....
I haven't been working here for over ten years for nothing!
YOU THINK A SHRIMP LIKE YOU CAN DEFEAT A MOTHER?
...SHE'S TOTALLY WINNING.
GO HOME!
.....
She even lowers on voice volume
LOOM
SO... WHAT'S THE FIGHT OVER?
OLD PIC
MONKEY!

GIRLS AREN'T ALLOWED IN AT ANY HOUR!
ARE YOU CRAZY? WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?
DO YOU KNOW HOW ABSURD THIS IS?
MOVE IT, YOU OLD HAG!
SHOVE
I DON'T CARE!
THEY'RE SCARY.
LOOK AT 'EM GO...
yeesh
TUMP
THRUST
PUSH
AIEE!
SLAM
LUNGE
UGH
UGH
UGH
FLING
SUMO!
GRAB

BOW
MITSURU.
YANK
SEMPAI ...
SHE'S MITSURU'S KOHAI. GO FIGURE.
SHE'S NOT THE TYPE HE USUALLY GOES FOR, BUT...
HUH ?
UH...
GRD
IGARA-SHI!

I'D COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN.
UIRATA TOLD ME A WHILE AGO.
MITSURU USED TO BE AN INFAMOUS DELINQUENT.
AND SHE'S MITSURU'S KOHAI?
YOU KNOW THAT, RIGHT?
YOU'RE NO GOOD AT IT.
...
REMEMBER HOW I TOLD YOU TO QUIT?
YOU'RE STILL AT IT?
YEAH, MITSURU'S GROUPIES ARE USUALLY PRETTY UNDERSTANDING.
THAT WASN'T HIS TYPICAL WAY OF HANDLING IT.
WAIT! YOU'LL CATCH A COLD!
I'M THE DORM HEAD!
HEY!
HASUKAWA, WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE ...
I'M GOING TO CHECK IT OUT!
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!
WE'RE GOING TO GO CHECK IT OUT, TOO.
AH!
IT'S FREEZING!

SMILE
I MEAN, WHY EVEN COME TO ME?
AND GO HOME.
LOOK, YOU'VE GOT YOUR HEAD SCREWED ON WRONG.
QUIT IT. OKAY?
YOU HAVE A...
TOK
SEM-PAI!
HASU-KAWA?

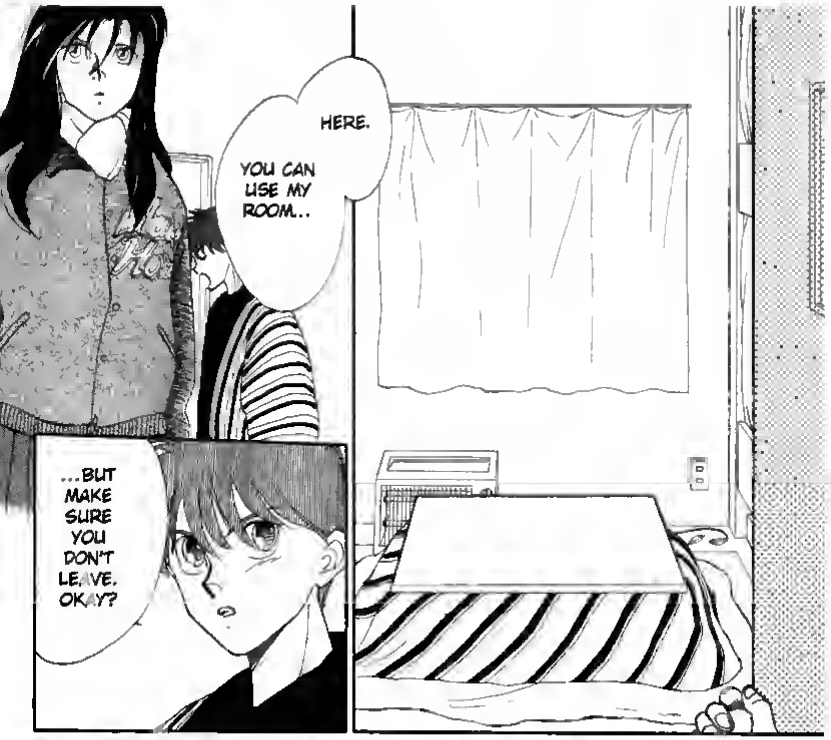
WHAT?
SEMPAI ...
ARE YOU ...
...CAN I CRASH AT YOUR PLACE?
WHY'D YOU BRING LUGGAGE ?
WH...
WHAT THE...
I'VE BEEN STAYING AT FRIENDS' HOUSES, BUT I CAN'T STAY THERE ANYMORE...
I CAN'T LET A GIRL STAY IN AN ALL-MALE DORM!
YOU IDIOT!
...NEED A PLACE. I DON'T CARE WHERE. CAN I STAY WITH YOU FOR TWO OR THREE DAYS?
I JUST ...

SNAP
WHO ARE YOU?
WELL, UM...
HUH?
She wasn't crying.
CAN'T WE HELP HER OUT?
UM ...
IT'D BE HARD TO FIND A PLACE TO STAY AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT ...
...AND IT'S REALLY COLD OUT...
COME ON!
SHE'S HERE BECAUSE SHE DOESN'T WANT TO GO HOME, RIGHT?

CHOMP CHOMP
Kids...They don't even have respect these days.
SHE'D RATHER DIE THAN LET HER STAY IN THE DORM. WHAT CAN WE DO?
THANKS TO HER, THE HOUSE MOTHER IS ALREADY FURIOUS!
Uh...
WELL ...
...WE'LL LET HER STAY IN THE DORM FOR ONE NIGHT...
HELP HER OUT? HOW?
AND WHERE IS SHE GOING TO STAY IN A DORM FILLED WITH TWO HUNDRED WOLVES? WELL?
HOW CAN YOU SAY IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS?
IF WE WORK TOGETHER, WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP HER!
THANKS TO SOMEONE, I'M THE DORM HEAD!
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS, SO STAY OUT OF IT.
...
GRR

FINE. I WILL.
RUSTLE...

I KNOW THAT! THAT'S WHY I'M SAYING I'LL TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY!
YOU DON'T GET IT AT ALL!!
RIGHT! AND IF SOMETHING HAPPENS, YOU'LL BE THE ONE HELD RESPONSIBLE!
SAY WHAT?
I DIDN'T THINK YOU WERE SO HEART-LESS!
THAT'S NOT THE POINT!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO DOESN'T GET IT! HOW COULD YOU TURN YOUR BACK ON YOUR KOHAI IN THIS FREEZING WEATHER? YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO COLD TO HER JUST BECAUSE YOU'VE GONE STRAIGHT!
ARRRH!
WHY DOES NO ONE THINK AHEAD?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I DON'T THINK TURNING HER DOWN IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO!
YOU'RE SO STUPID!
WELL, SORRY I'M STUPID!
FINE! DO WHAT-EVER!
THANKS! I WILL!
IGARA-SHI?
YOU CAN STAY OVER TONIGHT.
BUT YOU HAVE TO BE QUIET, OKAY?


HERE.
YOU CAN USE MY ROOM...
...BUT MAKE SURE YOU DON'T LEAVE. OKAY?

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS IS HAPPENING.
210

...
THE LEAST SHE CAN DO IS RESPOND!
SHF
SHF
SHF
I'M BEING NICE TO HER, AND SHE GIVES ME THAT ATTITUDE!
WHAT'S WITH HER?

IS SHE ONE OF MITSURU'S GROUPIE CHICKS?
DISST

TOK TOK
WHO'S THAT?
IS THAT A GIRL? FOR REAL?
MAYBE RELATED TO SHUN?

GLARE

I TOLD YOU TO BE QUIET!
AD
FACE IT— THEY'RE GOING TO LOOK AT YOU.
Stop acting all macho.

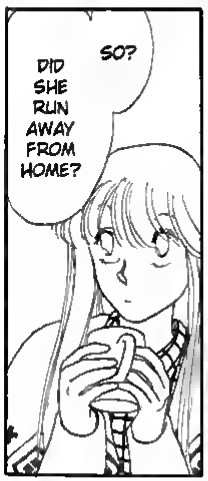
TOK TOK TOK
WHO KNOWS?
ARE THEY GOING TO LET THAT THING STAY OVER?

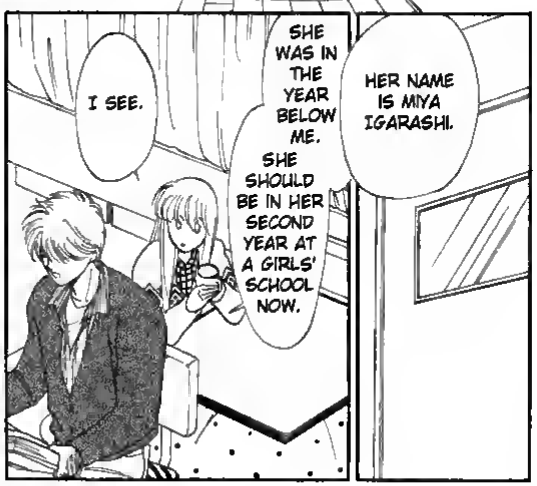
SNAP
BACK OFF, CREEPS! NOTHING TO SEE HERE!

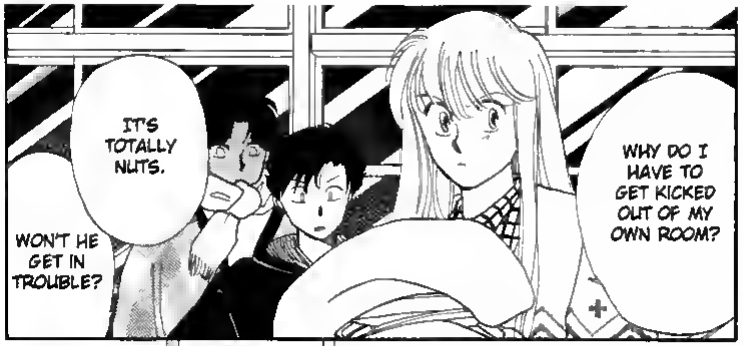
HASU-KAWA!
THERE'S NO NEED TO GUARD THE DOOR. NO ONE'S GOING TO MAKE A PASS AT HER
SHE'S TOO SCARY.
THAT'S NOT THE POINT!

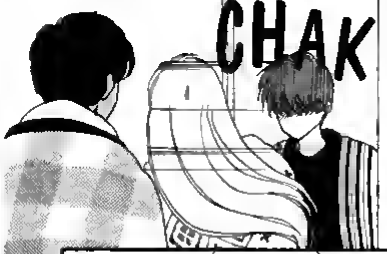
ACHO!

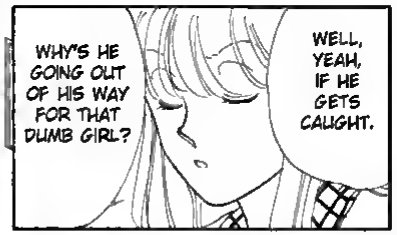
MAYBE HE'S SLEEPING IN THE HALL.


SO?
DID SHE RUN AWAY FROM HOME?

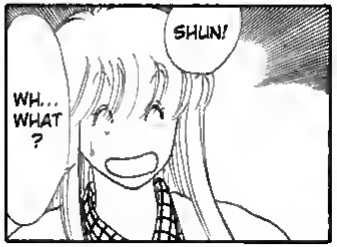

I SEE.
SHE WAS IN THE YEAR BELOW ME. SHE SHOULD BE IN HER SECOND YEAR AT A GIRLS' SCHOOL NOW.
HER NAME IS MIYA IGARASHI.

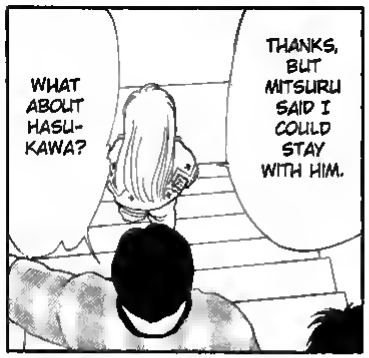

IT'S TOTALLY NUTS.
WON'T HE GET IN TROUBLE?
WHY DO I HAVE TO GET KICKED OUT OF MY OWN ROOM?


CHAK


WHY'S HE GOING OUT OF HIS WAY FOR THAT DUMB GIRL?
WELL, YEAH, IF HE GETS CAUGHT.

CAN YOU TAKE THE HEAD COUNT FOR ME?


SHUN!
WH... WHAT ?


THANKS, BUT MITSURU SAID I COULD STAY WITH HIM.
WHAT ABOUT HASU-KAWA?

SEMPAI?
IF YOU DON'T HAVE A PLACE TO SLEEP, YOU CAN STAY IN MY ROOM.
THIS SUCKS.
WHY IS HE DOING THIS?

DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND THAT IF SOMETHING HAPPENS, IT'S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY?
THERE'S NO REASON FOR ME TO DO THIS!
IT'S JUST THAT MITSURU WAS SO COLD TO HER..
I BET HE DID STUFF LIKE THIS WHEN HE WAS THE DORM HEAD.
YOU'RE STILL AT IT?
THAT'S PROBABLY WHY SHE CAME LOOKING FOR HIM..

PLUS...
SHE LIVES BY HERSELF.
HUH?
SHE HAS NO REASON TO RUN AWAY FROM HOME.
QUIET.
SLAM
ARRGH! DRAT!
HOW DID I END UP IN THIS STATE?
SNIFF
ACHOO!

TOK
IGARA-SHI.
WHY DID YOU COME TO ME?
WE'VE COME THIS FAR, SO TELL ME WHAT'S GOING ON.
BY THE LOOKS OF IT, I DOUBT YOU'VE BEEN GOING TO SCHOOL.
WHAT HAPPENED?

*SO IN CHARACTER.
SHAVED
I wonder if his face is able to recover so quickly because he was in so many fights.
A NATURAL THUG!
THE LEADER OF THE PACK...
MITSURU MUST'VE BEEN LIKE HER, BACK IN THE DAY.
IT — MITSURU'S MIDDLE SCHOOL HAD A DIFFERENT SCHOOL UNIFORM.
YOU GOT OUT OF THE SHOWER AND WENT STRAIGHT OUTSIDE. YOU'RE GOING TO CATCH A COLD.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS. GO SLEEP IN THAT ROOM OVER THERE.
NO... WELL...
I CAN'T IMAGINE HIM BEING THAT BAD...
HE'S SO CLEAN-CUT NOW.
AH!
TALKING TO YOURSELF?
IGARA-SHI!
I'M OPENING THE DOOR!
NOK
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
CHAK
NO!

SHOW YOUR TRUE SELF

THEY'RE AFTER ME.
HYOOOO
THE STORM ARRIVED.
What's this manga running into, The Glorious Asuka Gang?!
THE GIRLS FROM AISEN ACADEMY ARE AFTER ME.
THE STORM BREWS
THE END

SHOW YOUR TRUE SELF

GOT IT. GO ON.
BUT... ...ALL THE OTHER GIRLS AT SUMIJYO ARE BOY-CRAZY WIMPS.
THEY SAID IT, NOT ME!
TOP GIRL? YOU'RE THAT HIGH UP?
ARE YOU RUNNING AWAY?
WAIT!
I'VE GOT NOTHING TO SAY TO YOU.
I WANNA TALK TO YOU.
COME WITH US.
AT THE TIME, I HAD NO IDEA WHAT THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT, SO I LEFT.
WE'LL MAKE YOU PAY!
YOU STARTED THIS, SUMIJYO!
IT'S NOBODY'S BUSINESS WHAT I DO OR WHERE I GO.
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT TURF.
BUT RUMOR HAD IT OUR GIRLS WERE FOOLING AROUND ON THEIR TURF.
UNTIL THOSE AISEN GIRLS SAID WE'D HAVE TO PAY...

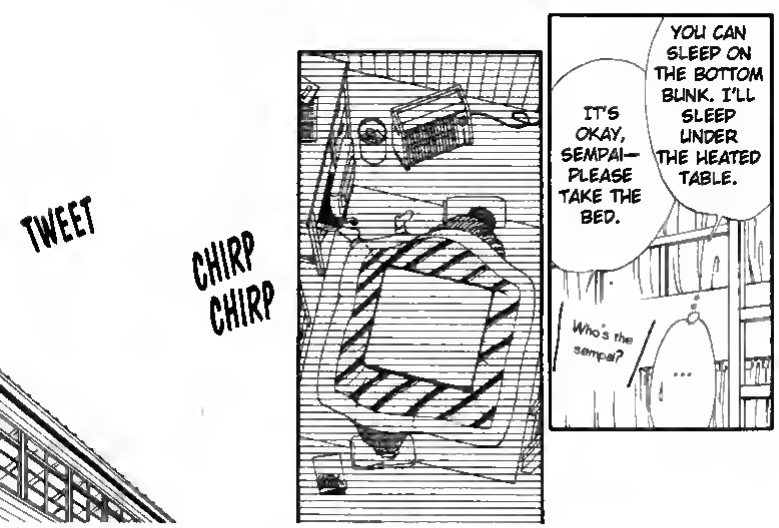
SO?
WRONG
SUMIJYO ACADEMY, THE SCHOOL I GO TO, IS ONE STOP AWAY FROM AISEN ACADEMY ON THE SUBWAY LINE.
APPARENTLY, WE'VE ALWAYS HAD TURF WARS.
WAIT A MINUTE!
YOU IGARASHI, THE TOP GIRL AT SUMIJYO?
ABOUT 10 DAYS AGO, A GROUP OF AISEN GIRLS STOPPED ME...

↑ SUMIJYO: SHORT FOR SUMINOHANA JYOSHI HIGH SCHOOL.

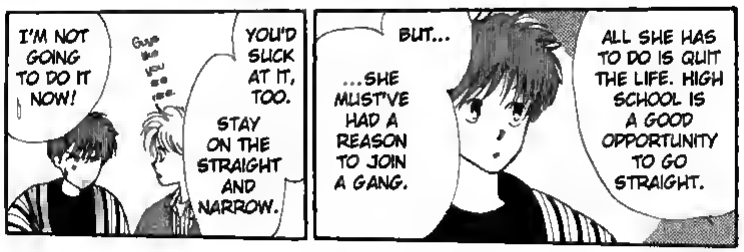
THEY PROBABLY WANTED TO GET RID OF YOU BECAUSE YOU STOOD OUT!
THEY'RE GOING TO KEEP DOING WHATEVER THEY WANT AND DUMPING ALL THE BLAME ON YOU.
FOR STARTERS, THIS ALL HAPPENED BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T SPEAK UP AND TELL THEM YOU'RE NOT THEIR LEADER!
DON'T YOU REALIZE A DITZ LIKE YOU WILL ALWAYS GET THE SHORT END OF THE STICK?
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU LET THEM GET THE BETTER OF YOU! HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU TO CLEAN UP YOUR ACT?
TMD!
TO ANOTHER FRIEND'S HOUSE.
SO. WHERE WILL YOU GO FROM HERE?
STILL...
ONCE I GET ENOUGH PEOPLE BEHIND ME, I'LL SEE THOSE AISEN GIRLS...
I STILL HAVEN'T ASKED SHOKO AND TATSUYA, SO I'LL HAVE TO TRY THEM.
...I DOUBT THAT WOULD HAVE STOPPED THEM.

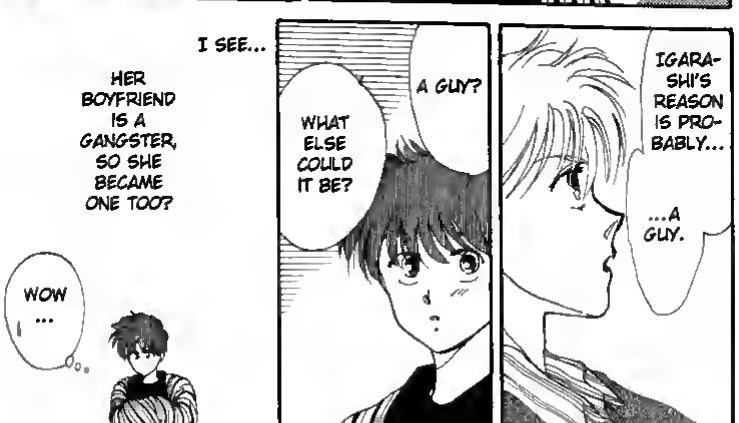
PLEASE, MIYA! HELP US!
Please?
I'M AFRAID TO GO OUTSIDE ANYMORE.
SHE SAID SHE WANTED TO TALK TO OUR LEADER, SO I TOLD HER YOUR NAME.
THERE'S NO ONE ELSE.
I TRIED AVOIDING THEM, BUT THEY STARTED TO WAIT FOR ME ON MY WAY TO SCHOOL. THEY KEPT SHOWING UP IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD.
OBVIOUSLY, THEY WEREN'T THERE TO CHAT. I COULDN'T FACE THEM WITHOUT A GANG.
THAT'S WHY I SKIPPED SCHOOL AND STARTED CRASHING AT OLD FRIENDS' HOUSES.
YOU IDIOT!
CRASH
THEY'RE USING YOU!
SEMPAI! CALM DOWN.
BUT THE THREE GIRLS WHO CAUSED THIS...
ARE YOU STUPID? THEY'RE NOT GOING TO HELP YOU!

DISGUISE
MITSURU...
I THINK IT'S KINDA COOL.
NOSY NEIGHBORS
DEAD ASLEEP
IT'S LIKE A CORNY TV DRAMA.
YOU'VE GOT TO UNDERSTAND, EACH GANG'S CULTURE IS DIFFERENT DEPENDING ON THE TIME, LOCATION AND SCHOOL.
...HAS A SOLID REASON FOR HELPING HER.
A motive, anyway.
HE DOESN'T REALIZE HE HAS MOTIVES OF HIS OWN...


TWEET
CHIRP CHIRP
YOU CAN SLEEP ON THE BOTTOM BUNK. I'LL SLEEP UNDER THE HEATED TABLE.
IT'S OKAY, SEMPAI— PLEASE TAKE THE BED.
Who's the sempai?
...

IGARASHI IS IN THE BATHROOM. THE GUYS ARE STANDING GUARD.
...ABOUT HER FAMILY SITUATION.
BATHROOM
SHE WAS LIVING WITH HER MOM, BUT HER MOM HAD TO MOVE OVERSEAS FOR WORK LAST YEAR.
THAT'S WHY SHE LIVES ALONE NOW.
REALLY? THAT HAS TO BE ROUGH.


I'M NOT GOING TO DO IT NOW!
Guys like you are...
YOU'D SUCK AT IT, TOO.
STAY ON THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW.
BUT...
...SHE MUST'VE HAD A REASON TO JOIN A GANG.
ALL SHE HAS TO DO IS QUIT THE LIFE. HIGH SCHOOL IS A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO GO STRAIGHT.

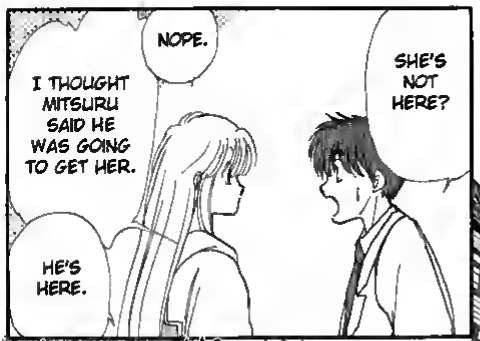

I SEE...
HER BOYFRIEND IS A GANGSTER, SO SHE BECAME ONE TOO?
WOW ...
WHAT ELSE COULD IT BE?
A GUY?
IGARASHI'S REASON IS PROBABLY...
...A GUY.

HAZU-GAWA. RET'Z GO.
Wait who cares?
I WON!
It's probably because I'm so tall I stuck out of the heated table.
Yup yup
Over here! This way!
What is it?
SNEAK
SNEAK
MA'AM! OVER HERE!
I'LL GOME AND GET YOU AND VRING YOU TO THE DORM.
I'LL MEET YOU IN VRONT OV THE HAMVERGER JOP IN VRONT OV THE STATION.
IDARASHI, VE'LL SEE YOU AT FOUR AFTER YOU SEE YOUR FRIEN'.
THANKS!
No prob!
You owe me a meat bun!

WAAH
SNIFF
ACHOO!
AREN'T YOU GLAD YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO SLEEP IN THE HALLWAY?
SNIFF
VELL, SORRY!
YOU TWO ARE AN EYESORE.
That's a first...
MITSURU GOT IT WORSE THAN SUKA-CHAN.
Whoa, gross!
A snot rope!
URHHHooo
I FEEL LIKE I DREW SOMETHING I SHOULDN'T HAVE
EWW!
WIBBLE
HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT YOU GUYS ARE GOING TO DO TO—
ACHOO!

EVER SINCE THE MOMENT I MET HER.

IT'S LIKE ...



...SHE'S ABOUT TO SAY SOME-THING, BUT...

HE GOT A FEVER AND LEFT SCHOOL EARLY. HE WANDERED AROUND LIKE A ZOMBIE AND PASSED OUT THE MINUTE HE GOT HERE. HE'S BEEN COMATOSE EVER SINCE.
NO WAY!
By the way, the bottom bunk is mine

YOU KNOW ...

BLAH
BLAH
BLAH
Welcome!
SHE'S BEEN WAITING FOR OVER AN HOUR!
SORRY I'M LATE.
UM...
THAT FACE AGAIN ...
WHAT?
ER..
WHERE'S MITSURU?
HIS COLD GOT WORSE, SO HE'S PASSED OUT RIGHT NOW.

FEELING BETTER ALREADY?
I know you weren't human.
SAYS WHO?
I'M FEELING BETTER BECAUSE I TOOK A NAP.
SEM-PAI!
BUT THEY'RE AT YOUR SCHOOL. THEY SEEM REALLY PISSED OFF.
I DIDN'T SEE ANYONE OUTSIDE YOUR HOUSE.
I TOOK A LOOK AROUND EARLIER.
I SEE ...
...ARE BOTH WORKING NOW. EVERYONE IS LIVING NORMAL LIVES...
SHOKO AND TATSUYA ...
ANY LUCK?

I OUGHTA THANK YOU, TOO.
TELL MITSURU I WENT BACK TO SHOKO'S TO ASK HER IF I COULD SLEEP AT HER PLACE FOR A WHILE.
THAT'S WHY I CAME.
MITSURU ALWAYS USED TO ACT MACHO TOWARD ME...
...BUT I KNEW WHAT KIND OF PERSON HE WAS.
SHUT UP!
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!
IS THERE ANOTHER REASON YOU DON'T WANT TO GO—
GRR
WAIT!
AREN'T YOU GOING HOME?
WHY NOT?
YOUR MOTHER'S AWAY, RIGHT?
YOU KNOW YOUR HOUSE IS SAFE! WHY NOT GO BACK THERE?

AUGH!
YOU GUYS AREN'T THAT TOUGH, HUH?
BUT THEY DON'T KNOW THAT.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
SEMPAI! SEMPAI!
GO BACK TO BED.
Huh?
SEMPAI!
TAK
ARE YOU AWARE YOU'RE SLIPPING?
I'LL LEAVE.
HUH?
I'M SORRY.

I WANT TO KNOW WHY!
MITSURU OUGHT TO KNOW, TOO!
I LENT YOU MY ROOM BECAUSE YOU SAID YOU COULDN'T GO HOME!
I HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW! I DEMAND THE TRUTH!
THAT SELF-RIGHT-EOUS MUMBO-JUMBO WON'T WORK!
What right do you have?
I'M NOT GOING TO ACCEPT THIS UNTIL YOU GIVE ME A VALID REASON!
HE'S LYING IN BED SICK BECAUSE OF YOU!
NOT UNTIL YOU TELL ME THE TRUTH!
I'M NOT ABOUT TO LET YOU GO!
IT'S HAUNTED

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
HAUNTED? HAUNTED BY WHAT?
I don't even want to say it
HUH?
IT'S WORST AT NIGHT. WHEN I TURN OFF THE LIGHTS. THE CEILING STARTS MAKING ALL THESE NOISES...
THE HOUSE MAKES ALL THESE NOISES WHEN I'M ALONE.
IT SOUNDS LIKE A LIVING TREE BEING SPLIT IN TWO.
I SWEAR!
Eek!
Don't say it!
ARE YOU SURE IT'S A GHOST?
YOU'RE SURE IT'S NOT JUST THE HOUSE?

WHEW
WHAT?
...GREEN-WOOD REALLY IS HAUNTED.
YEP
SO THAT'S THE REASON...
I GET IT.
HEY!
YOU CAN'T STAY OUT LATE IF YOU'RE SCARED OF GHOSTS!
I GUESS THAT MAKES IT HARD TO BE A GANGSTER.
KOFF
NO MATTER HOW I TRY ...
I KNOW IT!
I DON'T NEED YOU TO TELL ME I'M A NAÏVE WIMP!
THANKS A LOT!

A LOT OF TIMES, WHEN AN OLD HOUSE SHIFTS, IT MAKES NOISE.
It happens most when the temperature drops at night and near electrical appliances
CRACK
CREAK
CRACK
YOU KNOW... WHEN THE TEMPERATURE AND HUMIDITY CHANGE, THE BEAMS IN THE HOUSE SHRINK AND STRETCH.
THE HOUSE?
I DOUBT IT.
IT'S NOT... YOU-KNOW-WHAT?
CRACK
MY HOUSE IS OLD, TOO, SO IT GETS REALLY NOISY.
I've heard stomping and creaking, but-
ANYWAY ...
HAVEN'T YOU NOTICED ALL THE NOISES HERE?
I KNOW HOW IT CAN MAKE YOU NERVOUS WHEN YOU'RE ALONE.
IT'S NOT THAT LOUD, SO YOU ONLY HEAR IT WHEN IT'S QUIET, ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU'RE GOING TO SLEEP AT NIGHT
WORD FOR WORD WHAT HIS BROTHER TOLD HIM WHEN HE WAS YOUNG
NO!
IT ONLY HAPPENS WHEN I'M ALONE!

WIPE
...YOU WERE HOLDING BACK TEARS.
YOU SATISFIED NOW?
TUK
I'M GOING HOME.
I'LL GO WITH YOU!
YOU'RE SCARED OF THE DARK, RIGHT?
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS.

...I'M USELESS ...
WAAAA
IGARASHI, THERE'S...
THERE'S NO REASON TO CRY...
OH, NO!
I GET IT.
THAT TIME ...
...AND THAT TIME AS WELL ...
BWAAA

A LOT STRONGER THAN ME...
TENMA ISN'T LIKE THAT!
HE'S SWEET! HE'S SMART AND HE'S STRONG!
YOU'RE WRONG!
HIS NAME IS TENMA?
WE'RE CHILDHOOD PALS.
IF WE GO OUT, PEOPLE WILL JUDGE HIM BY ME AND MY ACTIONS.
AFTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, HE WENT OFF TO A GOOD PRIVATE SCHOOL.
HE'S BEEN SMART, SWEET AND ADORABLE EVER SINCE WE WERE LITTLE.
I REALLY SHOULDN'T BE WITH SOMEONE LIKE HIM.
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN THIS WAY—STUPID AND DIFFICULT.

I LET A GIRL STAY THE NIGHT.
HM...
SHK
SHK
SHK
I CAN'T BELIEVE WHAT I DID.
IT'S OKAY IF A NORMAL GIRL CAN'T FIGHT OR GETS SCARED OF GHOSTS.
ABOUT WHAT I SAID EARLIER ...
I JUST THOUGHT BEING NORMAL MIGHT SUIT YOU BETTER.
I HEARD THIS FROM MITSURU, BUT...
...BUT I DON'T THINK A GUY LIKE THAT IS WORTH IT.
THIS MIGHT SOUND WEIRD ...
...HE SAID YOU BECAME A GANGSTER BECAUSE... HM... FOR A GUY.

THIS COULD BE LOVE

...HE SAID HE LOVES ME.
HE'S THE ONE ...
...WHO'D BE DRAGGED DOWN IF WE GOT TOGETHER.
HE NEEDS A SMART, PRETTY WIFE.
BUT...
THAT'S WHY I DECIDED TO MAKE HIM HATE ME.
IT'LL BE MUCH MORE PAINFUL IF I WAIT UNTIL WE'RE ADULTS...
YOUR TRUE SELF: THE END

THIS COULD BE LOVE

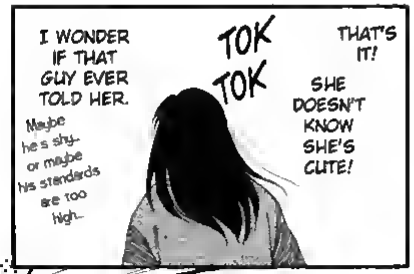
PRETTY CERTAIN, AREN'T YOU?
HE'S GOT TO BE!
HE'S JUST BEEN FOOLING HIMSELF ALL THESE YEARS!
SURE!
I LOVE MIYA!
WELL, WHY DON'T YOU BELIEVE HIM?
Don't get mad.
WHAT'D YOU SAY!?
ARE YOU CALLING TENMA A LIAR?
BE-CAUSE YOU'RE CUTE.
BECAUSE YOU'RE—
WHY WOULD HE BE IN LOVE WITH ME?

BUT ...
BUT WAIT! THAT'S ...
THAT'S JUST WEIRD!
THINK ABOUT IT!
HE SAID HE LOVED YOU, RIGHT?
SO WHY DO YOU HAVE TO MAKE HIM HATE YOU?
WHO KNOWS? MAYBE HE STILL LOVES YOU!
TENMA'S MOM..
...ASKED HIM TO LOOK AFTER ME.
TENMA, PLEASE TAKE CARE OF MIYA.
PLEASE BE NICE TO HER.
MAMA

WE HAVE SOME UNFINISHED BUSINESS.
OUR BOSS IS WAITING FOR YOU!
When I checked, there was no one around!
MITSURU! YOU LIED! YOU SAID THEY WERE GONE!
LEAVE HIM.
WE FINALLY FOUND YOU, AND YOU'RE WITH A GUY.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH HIM?

COME HERE!

WHO IS THIS LOSER?
...
WAIT!
UH-OH.


I WONDER IF THAT GUY EVER TOLD HER.
Maybe he's shy... or maybe his standards are too high...
TOK TOK
THAT'S IT!
SHE DOESN'T KNOW SHE'S CUTE!

SHE'S CUTE.
Hmph!
THAT'S RIGHT.

WHY WOULD SHE LIKE A GUY LIKE THAT?
DOES HE HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT SHE'S GOING THROUGH FOR HIM?
WHY DOESN'T HE HELP HER WHEN SHE'S SO SCARED?
WHO IS THIS TENMA, ANYWAY?
ARGH
ARGH
ARGH
ARGH

OOF.
BUMP

LOOM
OH, CRAP!
RUN!
HUH?

GRAB
...YOU CAN'T GO ALONE!
BUT ...
IF YOU REFUSE TO MOVE YOUR CAR, IT WILL BE TOWED.
IGARA-SHI!
THE LONGER I KEEP RUNNING, THE WORSE THIS IS GOING TO GET.
IT'S MY OWN FAULT FOR LETTING IT HAPPEN.
I'M GOING TO GO PUT AN END TO IT.
IGARA-SHI!
...?
THAT VOICE ...
IT WILL BE TAKEN AWAY!
PLEASE MOVE YOUR CAR IMMEDI-ATELY.
HEF
HEF

OFFICER!
IT'S A COP!
ALL RIGHT!
PLEASE MOVE YOUR CAR IMMEDIATELY!
PLATE NUMBER 189 FROM SODEGAURA KANO. PLATE NUMBER 189 FROM SODEGAURA KANO. THIS IS A NO PARKING ZONE.
SHEE
MEET US UNDER THE SAKURAGI BRIDGE AT NINE!
IF YOU DON'T COME, YOU'RE REALLY GOING TO REGRET IT!
IGARA-SHI!
PLATE NUMBER 189 FROM SODEGAURA KANO.
GOT IT?
HUH?
IF YOU KEEP HANGING AROUND ME, YOU'RE GOING TO GET HURT.
LOOK.
YOU'VE DONE ENOUGH. YOU CAN GO HOME NOW.
IGARA-SHI...
PLEASE MOVE YOUR CAR IMMEDI-ATELY!

IWP
SEMPAI...
DON'T GET CAUGHT. WE CAN'T LET THE SCHOOL GET INVOLVED.
YOU'RE GOING TO HELP HER?
GEEZ.
AND WE ONLY HAVE TWO HOURS LEFT...
I WON'T DRAG YOU IN, YOU SEE...
I KNOW.
...BACK WHEN I WAS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL...
TOUGH GUY
...HER GANG AND MY GANG GOT INTO A FIGHT, AND WE WON. EVER SINCE THEN, THEY'VE ADMIRED ME.
THAT'S ALL I HAVE TO GO ON, BUT...
I'D BETTER GO.
Respect and honor!

Who cried and begged?
YOU'D BETTER BE GRATEFUL.
MITSURU CRIED AND BEGGED ME TO FOLLOW YOU. HE DIDN'T THINK YOU COULD HANDLE IT BY YOURSELF.
Thank you...
THANKS VERY MUCH FOR YOUR HELP.
No prob, but...
I HAVE TO HURRY!
AH!
WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS!
WHAT? TONIGHT?
I THINK IGARASHI IS PLANNING TO GO ALONE!
I HAVE TO TELL MITSURU!

THIS IS OUR CHANCE TO GET RID OF IGARASHI AND MAKE THE SUMIJYO TURF OURS.
SHE'S HERE.
EVEN IF SHE WANTED TO BRING BACKUP, NO ONE'S GOING TO COME.
WE KNOW THERE'S NO ORGANIZED GANG AT SUMIJYO ANYMORE.
ARE YOU IGARASHI FROM SUMIJYO?
YEAH.
SHA
SHE'S NOT ALONE.
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE THE SAME GIRL WHO WAS HIDING UNTIL YESTERDAY.
YOU'VE GOT SOME GUTS, COMING ALONE.

YEAH, RIGHT.
SEE YOU.
HASUKAWA, MAKE SURE YOU KEEP THE WINDOW OPEN
WAIT! I'LL GO, TOO!
WHAT WILL HE DO IF THEY BRING A LOT OF PEOPLE?
SLAM
BUT...
...THIS IS INSANE!
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
AAAA!
DO YOU THINK SHE'LL COME BY HERSELF?
YEAH.

If I'd known, I wouldn't have dressed like this.
HEY, THEY'RE USING GUYS, TOO!
Perverts!
ZASH
...WHAT YOU CAN TAKE.
NOW LET'S SEE...
CHK
IT'S YOUR OWN STUPID FAULT FOR COMING HERE ALONE!
HA HA HA HA HA
UNFAIR, HUH?
CHK
SLASH
THUD
BAM
Hey!

PSST
YOU WON'T GET ANY CREDIT IF A GUY COMES TO A GIRLFIGHT.
IT'S A MYSTERY HOW FAR THE TIGHTS ARE RIDING UP UNDER THE SKIRT
WIG FROM CULTURAL FESTIVAL
AIDS THE DISGUISE
SEMPAI?
TOK
YOUR GIRLS WERE MESSING AROUND ON OUR TURF!
IT DOESN'T MATTER.
HEY, IGARASHI!
IS SHE FROM SUMI-JYO?
WHO'S THAT TALL GIRL?
PSST
PSST
...WHEN YOU LACK HONOR IN THIS WORLD!
I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT HAPPENS...
YOUR SUBORDINATES' RESPONSIBILITIES ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

HEY! GUYS!
FURU-SAWA SEM-PAI?
It's so cool!
A limited-edition bike!
VREEE
AAAAH!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
VRM VRM VRM VRM
I DON'T LIKE USING MY BIKE FOR THIS, BUT...
WE'RE HERE TO FIGHT!
HUH?
VRM
SHUN ASKED ME TO COME.
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING, IGARASHI!

ARE YOU SURE?
GUYS! HELP US OUT!
Is that really a girl?
GEEZ!
SHE'S REALLY STRONG!
HEH HEH HEH
NUDGE
VROOM
WHAT THE...
Kawasaki
I'm not fully recovered and I'm wearing a skirt.
THREE GUYS ...
VOOOO
VM!!

Where... is... Shinobu !?
AH!
IS THAT ...
IT'S A MER-CEDES!
SKREE
SHE'S ON FIRE...
I'll kill you!
How dare you mock me?
Stop hiding and come out!
Dear Sis, I'm sure your days have been lonely lately, so I thought I'd cheer you up. Please come to the location below at 9:00. Make sure you're there on time. Your brother, Shinobu ♡
WE'RE NOT GETTING MIXED UP WITH THE YAKUZA!
HEY, WAIT!
I DIDN'T AGREE TO THIS. WE'RE OUT!
THOSE LOOK LIKE YAKUZA!
CRAP ...

TA
OA
THE GUYS IN THE BACK ARE FOR SHOW.
HAMA
THE SCARY-LOOKING GUYS ARE IN FRONT.
YOU IDIOTS! WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SOME-THING?
COME TO THINK OF IT, WE SAW HER WITH A GUY...
OH, NO! SHE WAS SECRETLY ASSEMBLING AN ARMY!

TAP
Good job! Don't get SNUF too SNUF loud!
Good job, guys!
I knew that was dumb.
SHINOBU
Ma'am! Poor thing.
BUT NOW NO ONE...
...WILL MESS WITH IGARASHI FROM SUMIJYO FOR A WHILE
YOUR FRIENDS ...

Uh...
CLAP CLAP CLAP
VROOM
AAAA
CLAP
Yeah
CLAP CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP
CLAP
YOU CAN GO HOME NOW!
THAT'S A WRAP!
THANK YOU, EVERY-ONE!
CLAP
CLAP
SIGH
CLAP
YEAH!
CLAP CLAP CLAP
No idea.
What is going on over there?

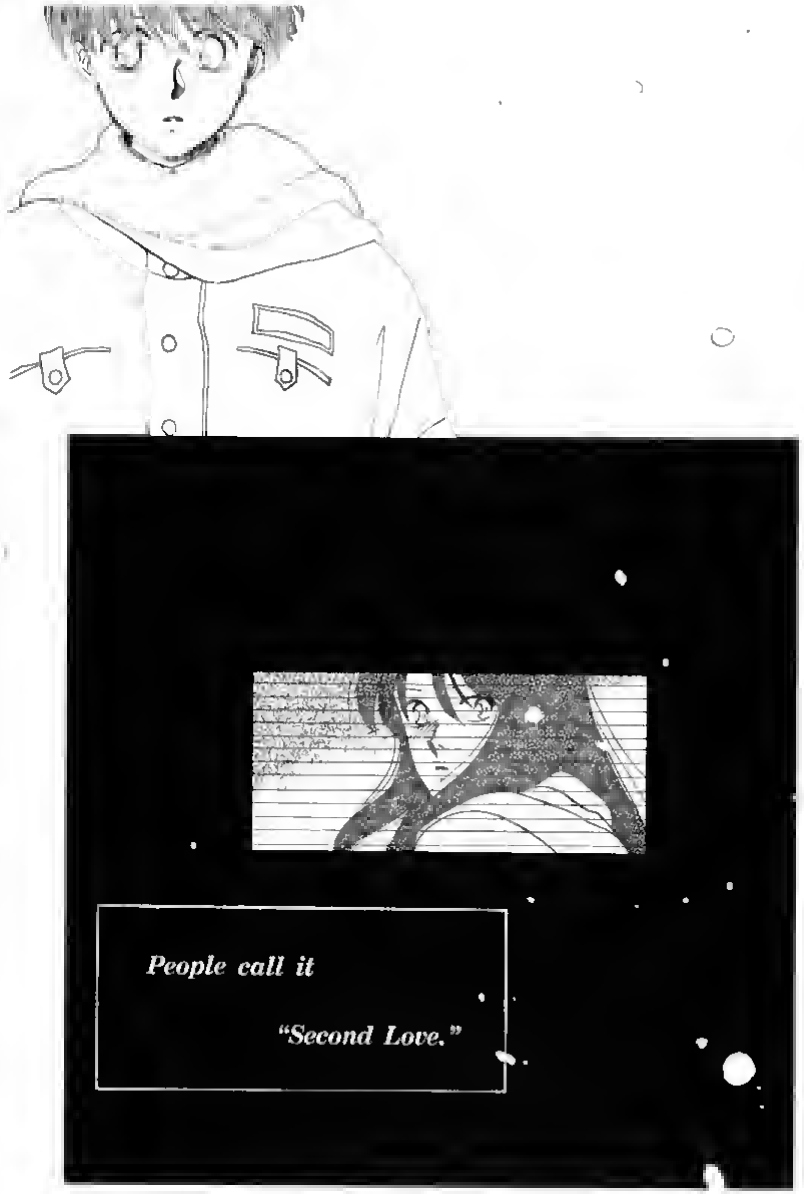
THANKS.
HEY ...
UM...
HUH?
I WASN'T MUCH HELP, BUT...
S... SURE.
TENMA.
HUH?
AH!
HUH?
HUH?
HUH?
YOUR NAME ...
HMM
HERE COMES TENMA KOIZUMI.
I knew it!

Kids these days.
I bet they were up to something
PSST! PSST!
BUT GREENWOOD GUYS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE GOOD STUDENTS...
I AGREE.
...ARE WEIRD.
SNEAK SNEAK
ALUMNI WHO WERE INVITED
Sounds good
Might as well get a drink while we're out
MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE THEY'RE YOUR FRIENDS.
TO AVOID GETTING CAUGHT THEY'RE SNEAKING IN THROUGH THE WINDOW A FEW AT A TIME.
Mit-suru!
YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY—YOU CAN'T JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER, RIGHT?
No problem.
Want to get a drink with us?
Thank you very much
HUH?
OH ...

AUGH
YOU IDIOT! LET GO!
YANK
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? YOU'RE SO SELFISH!
COME ON. LET'S GO HOME.
I NEVER ASKED YOU TO LOOK FOR ME!
STOP TREATING ME LIKE A BABY!
I'M TAKING HER HOME.
There's no need to thank us
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP.
I'll be back to thank you formally.
That's not the point!
Don't be so shy!
Let go of me!
WHO'S THAT?
IGARASHI'S BOYFRIEND.
THEY'VE ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THAT. FOR ALL I CARE, THEY CAN STAY THAT WAY FOREVER.
THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T LIKE GETTING INVOLVED IN WHATEVER IGARASHI WAS DOING.
I'll never understand how those two work.

HEY!
IKEDA-SEMPAI!
How cute! How sweet!
TENMA.
OH.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
LONG TIME NO SEE! I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU!
I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU! YOU'VE BEEN MISSING FOR TEN DAYS! I'VE BEEN ASKING AROUND AT ALL THE PLACES YOU'VE STAYED!
HOW COULD YOU? YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME YOU WERE IN DANGER!
BUT ...
MIYA!
SHOKO TOLD ME MIYA WAS WITH YOU, SO...
WHERE'S MIYA?
YEEP!
Uh-oh!

JAPAN AS A HABIT

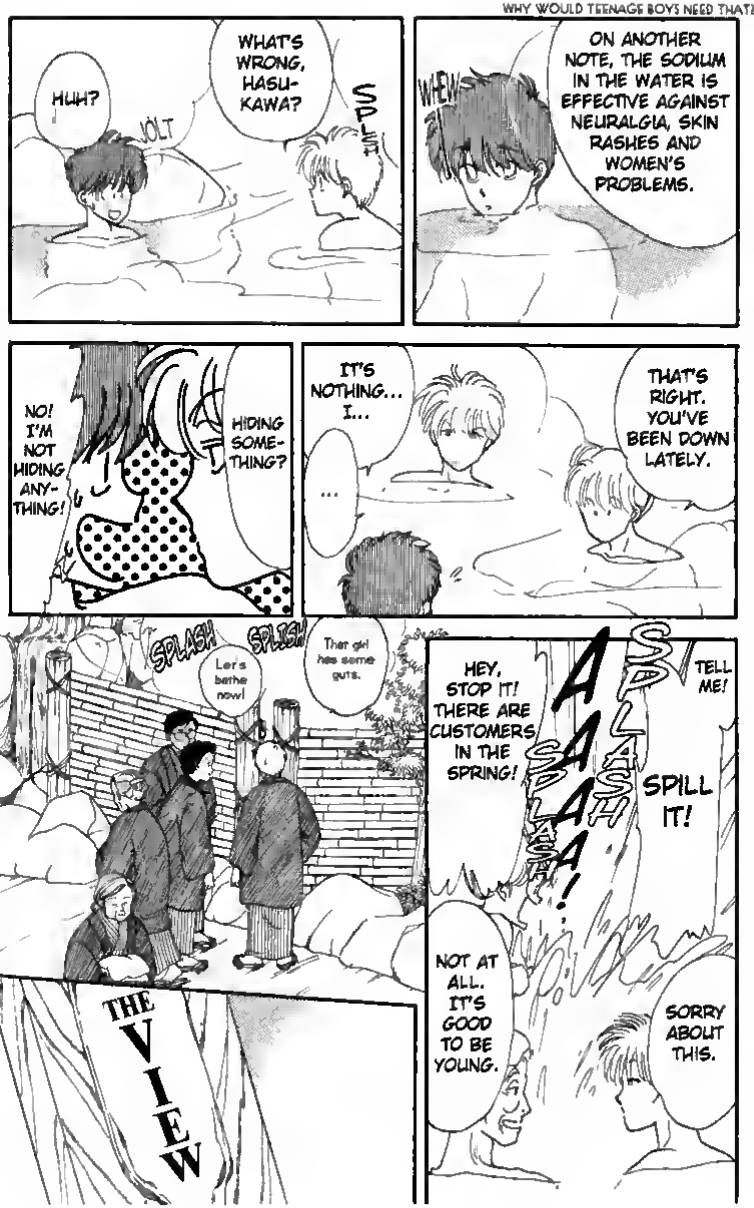


THIS COULD BE LOVE: THE END

JAPAN AS A HABIT

SHINOBU...
WHAT IS IT?
OH, LOOK AT THEM!
Monkeys!
Monkeys!
LOOK, THERE'S MONKEYS.
Check it out!
TODAY WE'RE AT A HOT SPRING INN OPERATED BY THE KISARAGI FAMILY.
PLEASE IGNORE ALL THE CONVENIENT STEAM.
FSHH
SHIII

WELCOME TO OUR HUMBLE ONSEN.
HO HO HO HO
NO PROBLEM. I'VE BEEN WANTING TO THANK YOU BOYS.
THANK YOU FOR INVITING US.
NO, NOT AT ALL.
MY MOTHER.
NICE TO MEET YOU. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR LOOKING AFTER SHUN.
BUT YOU'RE SO POLITE.
PLEASE CONTINUE TO LOOK AFTER SHUN.
OH HO HO!
I WAS ALSO THINKING ABOUT KICKING YOU BOYS OUT IF YOU TRIED TO GO INTO OUR SPRINGS IN BATHING SUITS.
OF COURSE NOT!
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT GET BORED AT A HOT SPRING, THOUGH...


HUH?
VOLT
WHAT'S WRONG, HASU-KAWA?
SPLASH
WHEW
ON ANOTHER NOTE, THE SODIUM IN THE WATER IS EFFECTIVE AGAINST NEURALGIA, SKIN RASHES AND WOMEN'S PROBLEMS.
NO! I'M NOT HIDING ANY-THING!
HIDING SOME-THING?
IT'S NOTHING... I...
...
THAT'S RIGHT. YOU'VE BEEN DOWN LATELY.
SPLASH
SPLASH
Let's bathe now!
That girl has some guts.
THE VIEW
HEY, STOP IT! THERE ARE CUSTOMERS IN THE SPRING!
AAAA!
SPLASH
SPLASH
TELL ME!
SPILL IT!
NOT AT ALL. IT'S GOOD TO BE YOUNG.
SORRY ABOUT THIS.

?
MY DAD'S A HAIJIN.
This snack is called Hare Hare. It's from Iwa.
WHAT DOES YOUR DAD DO?
I SEE.
SEE? THIS IS ONE OF HIS POEMS.
I DOUBT YOU'VE HEARD OF HIM, BUT HE'S PRETTY FAMOUS IN THE INDUSTRY.
POETRY IS AN INDUSTRY?
ARGH
I MEAN HAIJIN AS IN A POET! NOT A JUNKIE!
HE WRITES POEMS!
HE SURE MARRIED INTO MONEY.
HUH.
It's like the plot of a novel.
MY PARENTS MET AT THIS INN. MY FATHER WAS STAYING HERE WHEN HE MET MY MOTHER. LATER, SHE TOOK OVER THE BUSINESS.

SHF
ENJOY.
THANK YOU.
YOUR MOM IS HOT!
OF COURSE SHE IS. SHE'S MY MOTHER.
SO YOUR MOM IS THE HEAD MADAME?
YUP. SHE'S THE PRESIDENT.
SHE ALSO RUNS A HOTEL ON THE BEACH AND RESTAURANTS IN THE CITY AND ON THE MAIN ROADS.
Wow
THAT'S AMAZING
Here you go.
IF ONLY I WERE TWENTY YEARS YOUNGER..
Tsk!
SHUN IS SMART, JUST LIKE HIS MOTHER.
SMART

I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE BACK.
OH, IT'S SHUN!
HELLO!
IT PASSED ALL THE FIRE SAFETY REGULATIONS.
EMERGENCY EXITS
DON'T YOU THINK THIS BUILDING IS A BIT COMPLICATED?
ASTI
ASTI IS THE PC TERM.
• ASTI:
A NEW TERM FOR NAKAI WORKERS AT HOTELS AND RESORTS.
(BUT I THINK NAKAI SOUNDS COOLER.)
WELCOME.
THEY'RE THE NAKAI.
YOU CAN'T CALL US NAKAI ANYMORE.

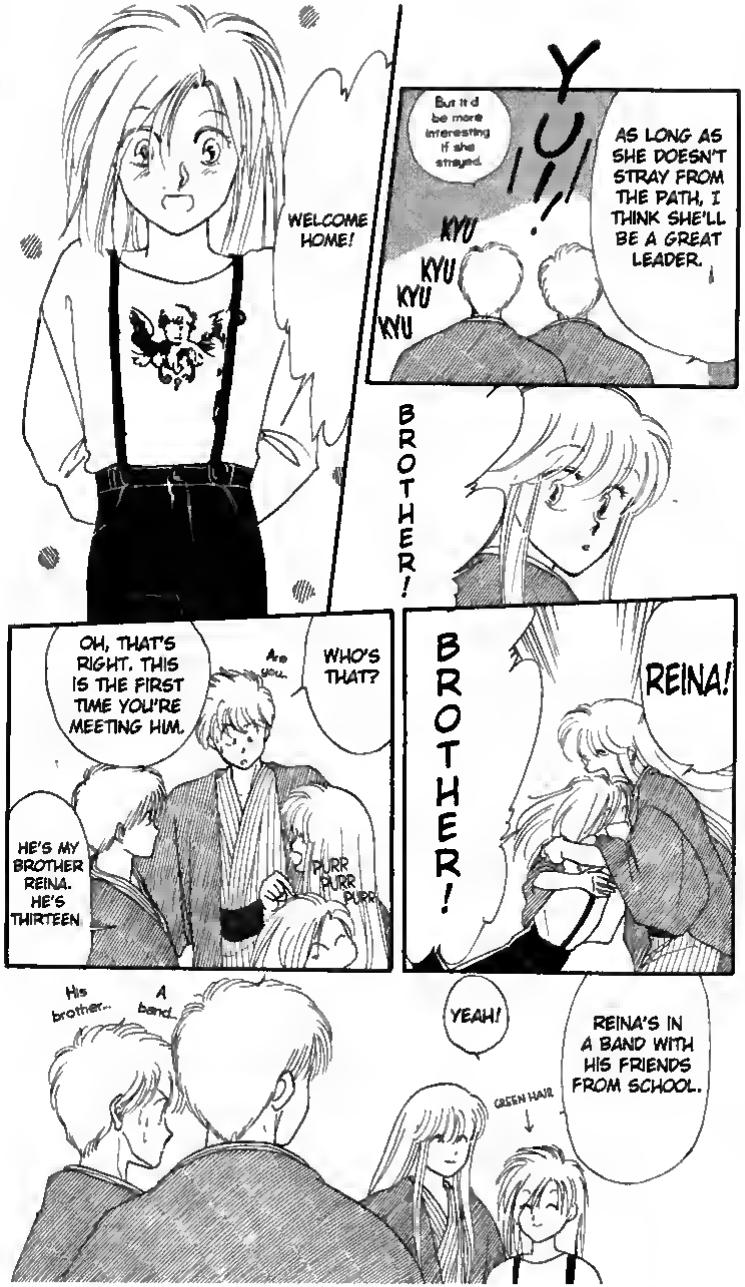
I'LL SHOW YOU AROUND THE INN.
I'M STARTING TO UNDERSTAND HOW SHUN'S BIZARRE PERSONALITY WAS FORMED.
ALL THE WORKERS KEPT HIM AT THE INN UNTIL HE SAID YES.
WHAT A PUSHY SALES PITCH!
YEAH...
...BUT MOM FELL IN LOVE WITH DAD FIRST. SHE KNEW SHE WANTED TO MARRY HIM, SO SHE SAID SHE'D QUIT HER JOB AND FOLLOW HIM UNLESS HE TOOK OVER THE BUSINESS WITH HER.
...BUT FROM THE OTHER SIDE...
GOT IT.
FROM ONE DIRECTION IT LOOKS LIKE A SINGLE HALLWAY...
BRANCHES OFF?
THE HALLWAY BRANCHES OFF, SO DON'T GET LOST.

I'M GUNSLINGER YUR!!
?
LOOK! LOOK! TUG TUG
LOOK! GETA SANDALS!
YOU CAN GET OUT TO THE GARDEN FROM HERE.
YOU CHANGE YOUR SHOES HERE.
YOU LOOK MORE LIKE JARINKO CHIE.
...
HELLO, SHUN!
YUI!
KYU KYU
KYU!
HERE'S THE PRIVATE GARDEN. GUESTS AREN'T USUALLY ALLOWED IN, BUT...

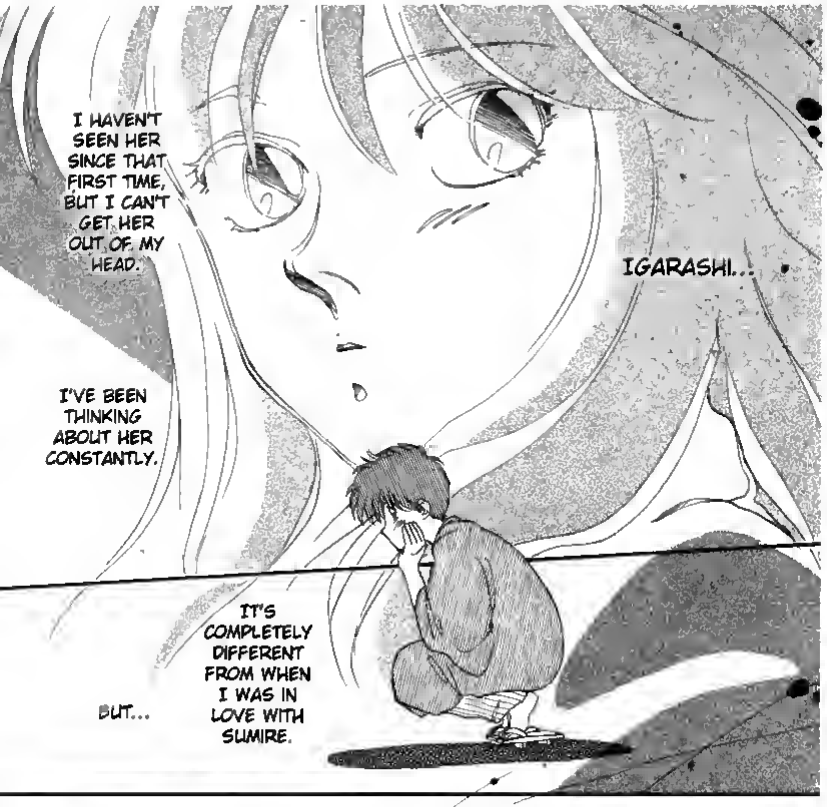
Bad joke!
Shouldn't you be working?
HAHAHA
WE'RE HOOKED ON PLAYING "HOTEL."
MA'AM! WE'VE GOT A PROBLEM!
AH!
LET'S CHECK OUT THE ACTIVITY AREA.
THAT'S RIGHT. I SHOULD GET SOMETHING FOR SUMIRE AND MIDORI.
THIS IS THE GIFT SHOP.
OH!
PIP PIP
HUH?
You can play video games if you've got change.
HOW DID I KNOW THERE WOULD BE A PING-PONG TABLE?
SCORE
WHAT'S THIS GAME?
I BET THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO WON'T RECOGNIZE SPACE INVADERS!
THEN AGAIN I THINK IT WAS RE-RELEASED ON THE NEW CONSOLES.
I SPOKE TOO SOON...!

LET'S TAKE A LOOK.
WHAT? YOU GOT A PROBLEM WITH YUI?
HUH? I CAN'T ...
The Japanese kiss had to go all the way to China for a mere 'a' Marry into money!
HEY, YOU SHOULD MARRY YUI!
NNN
DON'T DO IT UNLESS YOUR INTENTIONS ARE HONORABLE.
YOU GUYS ...
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE HITTING ON A BABY.
AH.
HEY THERE!
....?
OKU-NAKEN NENYO!
CHAINA GAN!
ZOW
SHE THINKS SHE'S ACTING LIKE THE CHARACTERS..
..but all she can do is babble
WELL ...
SHE'S BEEN HOOKED ON CAPTAIN TSUBASA VIDEOS LATELY.
Icha
kun!
IF YOU CAN FIGURE OUT WHAT SHE'S SAYING LET ME KNOW! (THERE'S NO PRIZE THOUGH.)

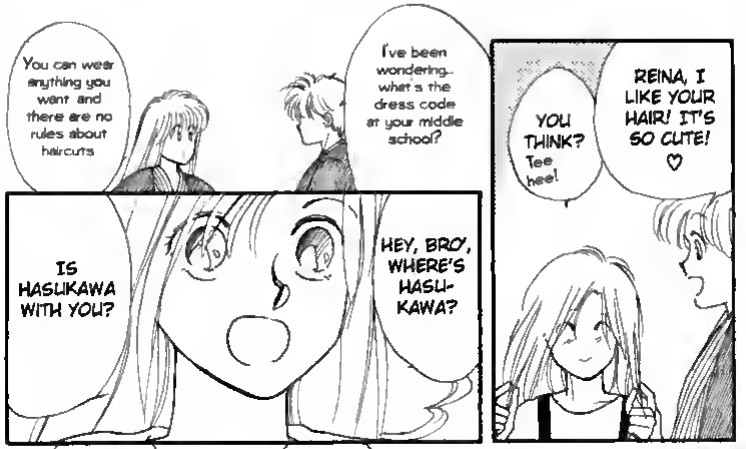
SHE'S STILL YOUNG, SO MY MOM BRINGS HER HERE SO SHE CAN LOOK AFTER HER.
THIS IS MY SISTER YUI.
AND THIS IS HER BABY-SITTER.
SHE'S BIGGER THAN HASU-KAWA'S NEPHEW.
WELL, SHE'S A YEAR OLD.
SHE HAS A BIG JOB AHEAD OF HER.
YUP. ONLY WOMEN CAN RUN OUR RESORTS.
THEN SHE'S GOING TO RUN THE RYOKAN AND HOTELS WHEN SHE GROWS UP?
The Stars of Kings
call my name!
KYU
NO WORRIES. SHE'S A LEO AND BLOOD TYPE O.
I'M POSITIVE SHE'LL BE A GREAT MADAME.
YUI IS VERY WELL-BEHAVED AND ISN'T SHY AROUND PEOPLE. SHE'LL BE FINE.

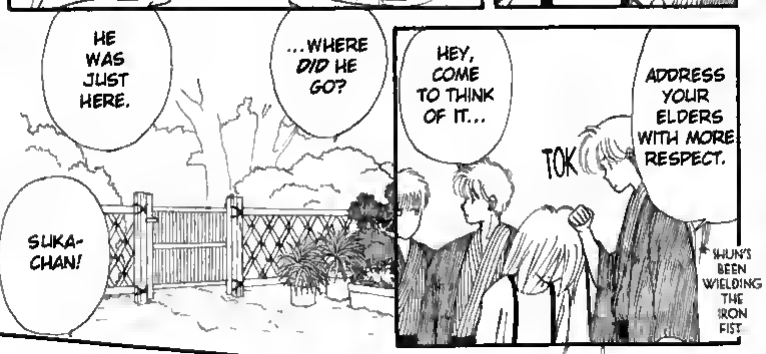

WELCOME HOME!
YUI!!!
But it'd be more interesting if she strayed.
KYU KYU KYU KYU
AS LONG AS SHE DOESN'T STRAY FROM THE PATH, I THINK SHE'LL BE A GREAT LEADER.
BROTHER!
OH, THAT'S RIGHT. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME YOU'RE MEETING HIM.
Ano...
WHO'S THAT?
HE'S MY BROTHER REINA. HE'S THIRTEEN.
PURR PURR PURR
BROTHER!
REINA!
His brother...
A band.
YEAH!
GREEN HAIR
REINA'S IN A BAND WITH HIS FRIENDS FROM SCHOOL.

STOP TRYING TO CHANGE YUI'S FUTURE!
I don't want to take over.
NEXT TIME, COULD YOU MAKE HER WATCH AIM FOR THE ACE?
Impressive
SHE LIKES THAT ANIME SO MUCH! SHE LOVES TO PLAY TAG AND SOCCER.
...
SLAM
KYU KYU KYU
LOOK AT HER GO!
DASH!
KYU KYU KYU
OH, YUI!
SHE'S UP.
TUP
KYU
WHUP
...
YUI!
DASH!


I HAVEN'T SEEN HER SINCE THAT FIRST TIME, BUT I CAN'T GET HER OUT OF MY HEAD.
IGARASHI...
I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT HER CONSTANTLY.
BUT...
IT'S COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM WHEN I WAS IN LOVE WITH SUMIRE.

WHAT'S THAT ABOUT KOI?
...I WONDER IF SHE EVER WENT HOME...


You can wear anything you want and there are no rules about haircuts
I've been wondering... what's the dress code at your middle school?
IS HASUKAWA WITH YOU?
HEY, BRO', WHERE'S HASU-KAWA?
REINA, I LIKE YOUR HAIR! IT'S SO CUTE! ♡
YOU THINK? Tee hee!


HE WAS JUST HERE.
...WHERE DID HE GO?
SUKA-CHAN!
HEY, COME TO THINK OF IT...
TOK
ADDRESS YOUR ELDERS WITH MORE RESPECT.
SHUN'S BEEN WIELDING THE IRON FIST

THEY MAKE ME THINK OF LOVE.
KOI FISH
KOI...

IGARASHI'S ALREADY WITH TENMA.
IT'S NOT LIKE ANYTHING'S GOING TO HAPPEN.
I ...
I SEE ...
IT'S NOT A CHOICE...
WHY DO YOU ALWAYS WANT OTHER PEOPLE'S THINGS?
THAT'S OBVIOUS.
I SEE ...
SO THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED ...
I'm impressed, Mitsuru-senpai.
You wouldn't understand it yet.
It's a bit complicated.
What are they talking about?
Right?
WOMEN IN LOVE ARE CUTE.

AAAH!
WAH
WAH
WAH
WAH
WAH
STOP TEASING THE FISH. POOR THINGS.
HUH?
N-NOTHING! I WASN'T THINKING ABOUT ANYONE!
THEY LOOK LIKE THEY'RE ABOUT TO EVOLVE LEGS AT ANY MINUTE.
SINCE YOU'RE SITTING THERE, THEY THINK YOU'RE GOING TO FEED THEM.
That's creepy.
BE CAREFUL. THEY'LL BREAK YOUR FINGER IF THEY GET HOLD OF IT.
AAAA!
NOOO!
FOLDED UNDER TORTURE
NO, I'M NOT! I'M NOT!
YOU'RE HIDING SOMETHING, AREN'T YOU?

SHAA
STARE
HASU-KAWA?
LOOK AT THE STARS! HOW BEAUTI-FUL!
WOW.

THANKS FOR THE FOOD!
HEY!
Tsk! I HAD NO IDEA THE GUESTS ATE SO WELL.
Here.
LET'S GO SOAK IN THE HOT SPRING AGAIN.
YOU CAN ONLY GET TO THE HOT SPRING BY CROSSING A BRIDGE.

SHHF
SOB
TAKE YOUR TIME IN THE SPRING.
It might cure you.
WE'RE GETTING OUT NOW.
IF YOU MAKE A WISH WHILE YOU'RE IN THE SPRING, IT'LL COME TRUE.
THERE'S A LEGEND THAT A GOD LIVES IN THAT WATERFALL.
SUKA-CHAN! SUKA-CHAN!
MY WISH ...
WILL COME TRUE?
SHAA
SHHF

JUST FORGET ABOUT HER BEFORE YOU GET IN TOO DEEP.
YOU CAN STILL TURN BACK.
YOU DON'T WANT TO DEAL WITH TENMA.
...BUT DON'T GO AFTER IGARASHI.
IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS
I FELT THERE WAS SOMETHING LACKING BETWEEN THEM
WILL IGARASHI KEEP BEING AFRAID THAT HE DOESN'T LOVE HER?
...I WONDER IF SHE'LL BE HAPPY WITH HIM?
I KNOW. DON'T WORRY.
BUT ...
IT'S NOT LIKE I'M GOING TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT.
Hmmm..
It's warm in here.
THERE'S AN OLD SAYING: "THERE ARE THINGS NOT EVEN THE SPRINGS IN KUSATSU CAN CURE."
Ever heard that?
I... I... Deserve to be trampled to death by horses!
WAK WAK
NO! IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS!

SHAA
AAAA!
SHAA
AW, MAN ...
BLUP BLUP
?
DID YOU ...
...?
OR THE PLASTIC WATER TUB?
...DROP THIS GOLDEN WATER TUB?
OR THE WOODEN WATER TUB?

I WISH I COULD SEE IGARASHI ONE MORE TIME.
TUP
SHAA
SHAA
I figured
He still hasn't given up.
SHI SHI
SHAA
SHAA
WHAK
THOK
SLAM

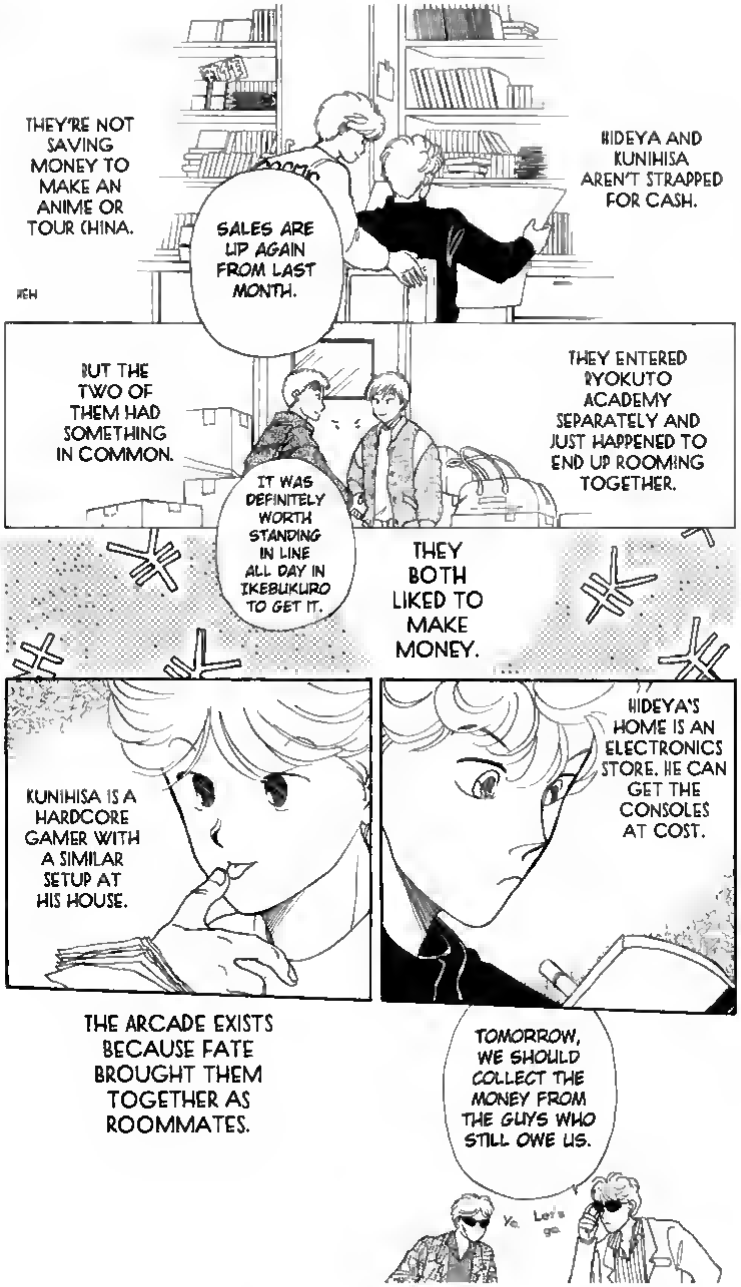
LITTLE SHOP OF GREENWOOD

Plastic!
WHO BROUGHT THIS THING IN?
WE DON'T KEEP PLASTIC WATER TUBS!
Geez...
THE BABBLING OF A MAN IN LOVE.
Maybe he's feverish?
I SWEAR!
I ANSWERED HONESTLY AND SHE GAVE ME ALL THREE!
...THE PRESIDENT GOT WORD OF THE STORY...
It's pure gold.
Who made this thing?
Are you sure?
It's real?
What?
BUT LATER ON...
SHAA
Ma am... Ma am...
WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO CHANGE LOCATIONS?
(I build a waterfall by the new building.)
...AND I DON'T THINK IT MATCHES OUR IMAGE.
WE'RE A HI-END RYOKAN...
...AND STARTED PLANNING A MARKETING SCHEME FOR THE WATERFALL.

LITTLE SHOP
OF
GREENWOOD

RATES ARE CHARGED BY TIME. ONCE YOU RENT THE HARDWARE (100 YEN PER HOUR), SOFTWARE (VARIABLE, DEPENDING ON TITLE), AND OPTIONAL ADDITIONAL MINUTES (ONE YEN PER MINUTE), YOU'RE GOOD TO GO.
Price Chart
SURE THING!
I WANT TO PLAY WHAT I WAS PLAYING LAST TIME.
THE ROOM IS EQUIPPED WITH VIDEO-GAME CONSOLES CONNECTED TO THREE TVS.
BEEP BEEP
AMIDST THE FOREST OF TECH GEAR, ELECTRICAL CORDS CARPET THE FLOOR. THERE'S BARELY ENOUGH ROOM TO WALK.
OTHER AMENITIES INCLUDE BOOKS ON FINANCE AND A FRIDGE WITH SPACE FOR RENT.
I ADMIRE THEM.
As a fellow businessman.
THEY BELIEVE IN MAKING MONEY, EVEN AT THE COST OF THEIR PRIVACY!
THEY'RE THE FAMOUS GREENWOOD ARCADE TEAM, SAKAGUCHI AND AOKI!
THE ONLY PERSONAL SPACE THE RESIDENTS HAVE IS THEIR BED. PEOPLE COME IN AND OUT OF THE ROOM AT ALL HOURS.

BEEP BEEP
BLIP BLIP
COMING IN!
HERE
EAST WING
ROOM 204
WEST WING
WITHIN GREEN-WOOD IS A BUSINESS SUPPORTED BY THE RESIDENTS.
WELCOME!
HIDEYA SAKAGUCHI'S & KUNIHISA AOKI'S ROOM, A.K.A. "THE ARCADE."
TAKA
BOOZUN
BYUUU
ZSH


THEY'RE NOT SAVING MONEY TO MAKE AN ANIME OR TOUR CHINA.
SALES ARE UP AGAIN FROM LAST MONTH.
HIDEYA AND KUNIHISA AREN'T STRAPPED FOR CASH.
HEH
BUT THE TWO OF THEM HAD SOMETHING IN COMMON.
THEY ENTERED RYOKUTO ACADEMY SEPARATELY AND JUST HAPPENED TO END UP ROOMING TOGETHER.
IT WAS DEFINITELY WORTH STANDING IN LINE ALL DAY IN IKEBUKURO TO GET IT.
THEY BOTH LIKED TO MAKE MONEY.
KUNIHISA IS A HARDCORE GAMER WITH A SIMILAR SETUP AT HIS HOUSE.
HIDEYA'S HOME IS AN ELECTRONICS STORE. HE CAN GET THE CONSOLES AT COST.
THE ARCADE EXISTS BECAUSE FATE BROUGHT THEM TOGETHER AS ROOMMATES.
TOMORROW, WE SHOULD COLLECT THE MONEY FROM THE GUYS WHO STILL OWE US.
Yo.
Let's go.

NOTHING THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO.
WHAT DID YOU DO, HASUKAWA?
HEH
HE LIKES VIDEO GAMES BUT SUCKS AT THEM.
A FIRST-YEAR JUST CAME CRYING TO SUKA-CHAN...
...ASKING FOR SANCTUARY BECAUSE HE'S IN DEBT.
YEAH, I KNOW HOW RUTHLESS THEY GET DURING COLLECTION TIME.
SAVES HIS MONEY
Fred's picking up a Japanese accent
BUT I DON'T THINK THEY SHOULD BE CHARGING A FRIEND.
YEAH.
HE SHOULDN'T HAVE WASTED HIS MONEY ON VIDEO GAMES.
IT'S HIS OWN FAULT. LET HIM TAKE HIS MEDICINE.
COULDN'T CARE LESS
USED TO GO ALL THE TIME AND STILL OWES THEM MONEY
MITSURU'S IN NO POSITION TO SAY ANYTHING TO THEM.
MITSURU, DID YOU GIVE THOSE GUYS A WARNING OR SOMETHING?
LIKES SHOOTING GAMES.
SHOOTING GAMES ONLY
Oh, yeah.
GSH GSH
BUT I BET THERE'S A LAW AGAINST IT.
NO... WELL...
IT'S NOT AGAINST DORM RULES, AND THEY'RE DOING IT ON A PERSONAL BASIS ONLY...

SALE! USED GAMES
NOTHING GOOD TODAY.
HMM ...
TEENI
ファイナ
FSST
This one's too dirty
I want this one but it's pricey for a used game
FWE
HUH?
WAAA
IT'S PITCH BLACK!
THAT SCARED ME!
I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED ...

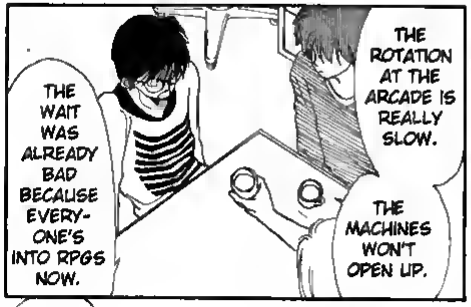
HAPPY SHOPPING
BUZZ BUZZ
CHATTER
山本酒店
Welcome! How may I help you?
MAY I HELP YOU?
ヤマト
CHATTER
MUTTER
WHILE HIDEYA TAKES CARE OF THE HARDWARE, CHOOSING THE GAMES FOR THE ARCADE IS KUNIHISA'S RESPONSIBILITY.
Thanks!

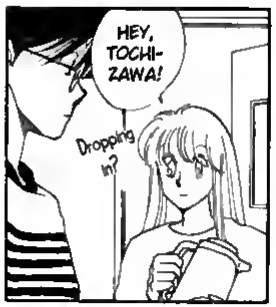
THERE WAS A MOMENTARY BLACKOUT IN THE KANTO REGION AT 2:00 THIS AFTERNOON.
I'LL MAKE A STRATEGY GUIDE SO WE CAN RENT IT OUT.
LET ME PLAY IT THROUGH ONCE.
IT WAS FREE, SO IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL.
BUT AN INVESTIGATION IS CURRENTLY UNDER—
THE BLACKOUT HAS BEEN BLAMED ON EXTREMELY THICK CLOUD COVER. .
TA-DAA
PEEEEP

I DIDN'T SEE THIS ONE BEFORE ..
HUH?
MIRACLE FLOWER PANIC
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. YOU'RE A GOOD CUSTOMER.
HOW ODD. THERE'S NO PRICE
HMM...
LET ME SEE.
MA'AM? HOW MUCH IS THIS?
LAST TIME WE COULDN'T FIGURE OUT WHAT WE WERE SUPPOSED TO DO IN A GAME, NO ONE PLAYED IT.
CLICK
AND NOW THE NEWS.
... THERE'S NO INSTRUCTION MANUAL.
BUT ...
FREE?
THAT'S AWESOME!

DP
DP
DP

I'LL... UM... SEE YOU LATER.
COME AGAIN SOON!


THE WAIT WAS ALREADY BAD BECAUSE EVERY-ONE'S INTO RPGS NOW.
THE ROTATION AT THE ARCADE IS REALLY SLOW.
THE MACHINES WON'T OPEN UP.

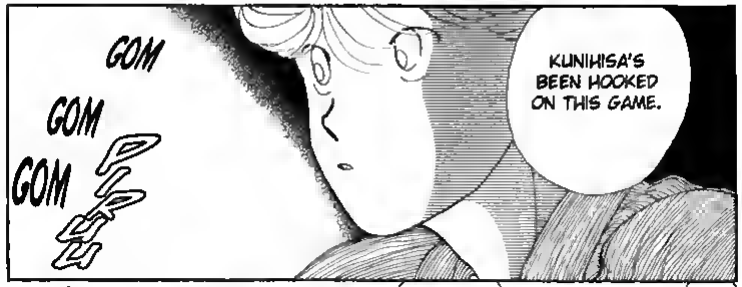

HEY, TOCHI-ZAWA!
Dropping in?

ARE YOU AT IT AGAIN?
204

That's bad!
A BUSINESSMAN SHOULDN'T CUT INTO HIS OWN BUSINESS.
That's not the point
BUT KUNIHISA HAS BEEN TYING UP ONE MACHINE ALL DAY LONG.

HUH?
PIP PIP
SORRY. THEY'RE ALL TAKEN.

WRRR
PIP PIP
HEY! ANY OPEN CONSOLES?
PIP PIP


GOM
GOM
GOM
KUNIHISA'S BEEN HOOKED ON THIS GAME.

POK
POK
POK
POK
IS IT AN ACTION GAME?
YEAH ...
POK
POK

PIP
PIP

IS IT FUN?
OH.
NAH, IT'S PRETTY HARD.
PIP
PIP

TELL ME ABOUT IT! AND IT'S OUR BUSY SEASON, TOO!
NO WAY.
SO THE RUMOR'S TRUE? HE'S SWITCHED SIDES?
THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU PLAY VIDEO GAMES ALL DAY LONG.
IS SOME-THING WRONG WITH HIM?
PUSH START
Making money is way more exciting.
HOW COULD IT BE THAT MUCH FUN?
I DON'T PLAY THESE THINGS, SO I DON'T GET IT.
PI PI PI
WHAT'S HIS PROB-LEM?
I'M HITTING THE SACK.
OKAY ...
IT'S MORNING. HE'S STILL PLAYING?
CHA CHA CHA
HUH——?
CHARA CHARA

IT'LL BE OVER ONCE I BEAT THE LAST BOSS ...
YEAH ...
SO YOU DON'T FINISH. SO WHAT?
THIS IS BAD FOR BUSI-NESS!
PIRO PIRO
YEAH ...
JUST A LITTLE MORE ...
OKAY ...
I'M GOING TO START CHARGING YOU!
ARRGH!
PI PIPI PI
HEAD COUNT.
NOK NOK
UM ...
I'M GOING TO THE BATH-ROOM.
HEY ...
ROOM 204. AOKI AND SAKA-GUCHI.
CREAK

CHA-RA♪
KUNI-HISA!
CHA CHA CHA
♪CHARA
EXHAUSTED
...HE'S BEEN LIKE THIS SINCE THIS MORNING?
SO ...
THE DOCTOR'S HERE!
TAP TAP
YEAH ...

KIND OF.
BUT ...
DID SOME-THING HAPPEN?
HE'S VERY WEAK.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
VIDEO GAME?
...HOW COULD PLAYING A VIDEO GAME DO THAT TO A GUY?
HMM
IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE CONSOLE?
WHAT IS IT?
HUH? WHAT THE...?
ZAM
IT'S THIS!

SHF
Hmm. Hmm. I see
PIP PIP LAAA
WHAT KIND OF GAME IS IT?
KSH
?!
WAAA
HMM ...
WHO PRO-DUCED IT?
YOU KNOW, IT DOESN'T SAY...
MIRACLE FLOWER PANIC
PIN HIM DOWN! HURRY!
GGGG... GAAME...
AT THE SECOND-HAND SHOP HE GOES TO.
WHERE'D YOU GUYS GET THAT GAME?
UGH UGH
I SEE ...

I SENSE EVIL VIBES FROM THIS CARTRIDGE!
COME TO THINK OF IT ...
THE LOCAL CLINIC IS CLOSED ON SUNDAYS.
WHY'D YOU CALL THIS NUT JOB?
THIS HAS GOT TO BE A PUT-ON!
I MAY BE A DOCTOR, BUT I'M ALSO AN EXORCIST.
I DON'T KNOW.
ARE YOU SAYING THE GAME IS... HAUNTED?
BUT WHAT COULD IT MEAN?
...KUNIHISA HAS BEEN ACTING WEIRD EVER SINCE HE STARTED PLAYING THIS GAME.
BUT I'M POSITIVE THAT HIS CONDITION IS DIRECTLY LINKED TO THAT VIDEO GAME CARTRIDGE.

SO WE NEED SOMEONE WHO CAN BEAT THIS GAME IN ONE OR TWO SHOTS.
ANY LEADS?
I DOUBT A COUPLE OF ROUNDS WILL HURT.
WON'T ANYONE WHO PLAYS END UP LIKE KUNI-HISA?
HE'S A REGULAR HERE AND AN EXPERT ON ACTION GAMES.
Come, come This way
YUP.
HI.
BLACK
IS IT TRUE YOU WANT TO LET ME PLAY FOR FREE?
PLUS HE'S IN DEBT TO THE TUNE OF FIVE DIGITS, SO WE CAN BLACKMAIL HIM IF WE HAVE TO.
NO WAY! ALL RIGHT!
BEAT IT IN ONE, AND I'LL ERASE YOUR TAB!
WHAT?
BUT IT'S MORE FUN WITHOUT THE RULES...
HERE'S THE MANUAL THAT HIDEYA MADE. I WANT YOU TO READ THIS AND BEAT THE GAME IN ONE SHOT.

B...
BUT...
IF WE DON'T RELEASE HIM FROM THE CURSE IMMEDIATELY, THE CONSEQUENCES WILL BE GRAVE.
HMM.
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING I CAN THINK OF.
WHAT CAN WE DO?
OR I CAN EXORCISE HIM FOR A MERE 500,000 YEN.
SOMEONE MUST BEAT THIS GAME FOR HIM!
Are you for real?
WAK
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
This is a pointless close-up
SO.
TOSS
You'll be sorry!
I'm telling the truth!

NOOO!
FEED MEEE
IT CAN'T BE GOOD...
YEESH... IF YOU GET EATEN BY THAT GUY...
...
THERE'S BARELY ANY ROOM TO TAKE COVER!
LOOK AT THE SIZE OF THAT THING!
THIS IS...
...MY DUTY, KUNIHISA AND I ARE IN THIS TOGETHER.
GRAB
HIDEYA!
SHF
WHAT? BUT I MADE IT THIS FAR!
I'VE ERASED YOUR TAB LIKE I PROMISED.
LET ME DO THE REST.

NOOO!
KYURU
CHOMP
NO!
AHH!
WOW, YOU'RE REALLY GOOD
DID YOU HEAR THAT?
UH-OH
Ugh...
SUDDENLY I'M FEELING SLEEPY.
BUP BUP BUP
PIP PIP
YOU CAN DO IT!
DON'T GET EATEN!
HUH?
YOUR HIT POINTS GO DOWN WHEN YOU GET EATEN BY THAT THING!
I GET IT!
BRRRRP
HERE COMES THE FINAL BOSS.
I'M GETTING TIRED, BUT I'M ALMOST THERE.
PIP PIP
HE MADE IT TO THE LAST LEVEL ON A SINGLE LIFE.
No wonder he's run up their tab.
I DON'T BELIEVE IT.

DO NOT THINK THIS IS THE END. MY ALLIES
THERE'S A MESSAGE!
NICE WORK, HIDEYA!
THANK GOD...
DO NOT
THE END. MY ALLIES ARE EVERYWHERE AND HAVE ALREADY BEGUN TO FEED.
ZZZ
ZZZZZZ
IS THE CURSE ...
...LIFTED?

OVER THERE! RUN!
YOU'RE GONNA GET HIT! YOU'RE GONNA GET HIT!
AUGH! I'M GOING TO DIE!
TA-DAA
ALL RIGHT. GO!
I CAN HANDLE THIS.
I HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE.
?
URRR~
AUGH! IT ATE YOU AGAIN!
CHOMP
WAA
IT ATE YOU!
CHOMP
UHH
YOU ONLY HAVE ONE GUY LEFT!
HFF HFF
YOU CAN DO IT, HIDEYA!
I GOT IT!
AH ...
AH ...
TK TK TK TK
AH!
BZZZZZ

Translation Notes

Page 41 In Japanese Buddhism, the spirits of embryos that died in the womb called *mizuko* are thought to be particularly restless and likely to become ghosts. As Yukie Nasu herself notes, the idea of aborted fetuses haunting Shinobu is a pretty grim topic of conversation by *Greenwood* standards—but abortion is common in Japan, in part because the birth-control pill isn't widely accepted, so it's plausible for teenage boys to talk about it.

Page 48 The first panel compares Aida and Suzuki to the Shobijin, the tiny twin fairy priestesses of Mothra who first appeared in the 1964 film *Godzilla vs. Mothra*.

Page 49 *Gin no Romantic* (Silver Romantic) by Izumi Kawahara is a 1980s shojo manga set in the world of figure skating. It first appeared in *Flowers and Dreams*, the same magazine in which *Here Is Greenwood* ran.

Page 56 Midori Ito and Junko Yaginuma were Japan's top figure skaters at the time this story was written. Their outstanding performances in the 1988 Winter Olympics established Japan's presence in the world of figure skating. In 1989, Ito became the first Asian to win the World Skating Championship.

Page 59 During the Edo period (1800-1867), Japan closed itself to most of the outside world, hence all the fuss in this story about the presence of a foreigner. Edo was the name of the capital of Japan during this period. It was later renamed Tokyo. The literal title of this chapter is "Here Is Happyeku Yacho," or "The 808 Neighborhoods," an old nickname for Edo/Tokyo.

Page 62 "Rat Kid" Jirokichi, the Japanese Robin Hood, is a real historical (or semi-historical) figure. Mayumi Ogawa played a female Rat Kid in a TV series featuring the legendary thief.

Page 72 *Ooka Echizen* is a long-running TV series about a judge in the Edo period who disguises himself as a *yakuza* to infiltrate the criminal underground. In general, the plot of this chapter of *Greenwood* is based less on the actual Edo period than on the way the period is portrayed in *jidaigeki*, or historical TV dramas. Shows set in feudal Japan are very popular on Japanese television, sometimes running for decades.

Page 74 For most of the Edo period, Holland was the only European country allowed to trade with Japan. That's how Fred[illegible]er, Hanfuki[illegible] is able to get to Japan via Dutch ship.

Page 110 *Hana no Asuka Gumi!* (The Glorious Asuka Gang!), by Satosumi Takaguchi, is a well-loved shojo manga about a girl who becomes a juvenile delinquent. It ran in *Asuka* magazine starting in 1985.

Page 122 Mitsuru thinks he sounds like a character played by Takaaki Ishibashi, a member of the comedy troupe Tonneruzu. At the time this story was written, Tonneruzu had a very popular variety show on Japanese television. The troupe continues to be a perennial favorite on TV.

HE DID NOT REMEMBER THE PREVIOUS SEVERAL DAYS.
THUS KUNI-HISA WAS SAVED.
KUNI-HISA!
What's going on?
HELP ME!
A FEW DAYS LATER, IT WAS THROWN OUT WITH THE TRASH.
THE MYSTERIOUS CARTRIDGE TURNED BLANK.
Goodness, look at the time
PAY UP, SEMPAI! COME ON!
SHK SHK SHK
TAK TAK T
BEWARE OF FREEBIES!
ALWAYS LOOK A GIFT HORSE IN THE MOUTH!
SINCE THEN, HIDEYA AND KUNIHISA HAVE LEARNED THEIR LESSON...
ER, THEY LEARNED THEIR LESSON
HA HA HA HA
THEY DIDN'T LEARN A THING.
THEY CONTINUED THEIR YOUTHFUL CAPITALIST WAYS.
CONTINUED?

LITTLE SHOP OF GREENWOOD: THE END

Page 147 The guys imagine Mitsuru sporting an elaborate tattoo of the type worn by members of the *yakuza*, the Japanese mafia

Page 166 An *onsen ryokan* is a traditional hot spring inn Japanese macaques or snow monkeys, enjoy hot baths as much as humans do, and some northern *onsen* boast springs frequented by both species

Page 171 Depending on how it's written, *haijin* can mean either "poet" or "junkie"

Page 173 Just as English terms like "stewardess" have been replaced by terms like "flight attendant," many Japanese job titles have changed to gender-neutral versions in recent years The old word for hotel attendants *nakai*, has been replaced with *asti* because "nakai" specifically indicates a woman

Page 175 *Geta* are traditional wooden sandals In her *geta*, Nasu compares herself to Gunslinger Yuri a character from a period movie, but Mitsuru thinks she looks like Jarinko the little-girl heroine of the 1981 Studio Ghibli anime *Jarinko Chie* (*Jarinko the Brat*) The anime is set in Osaka where many people still wear traditional Japanese clothing and Jarinko's oversized *geta* are her trademark

Page 177 In the early 1990s, only two Japanese crested ibises or *toki*, were left in Japan China, which has a population of captive *toki* sent two birds to the Sado Toki Conservation Center in Japan for mating purposes For many months, the efforts to breed the ibises were ongoing national news Today six *toki* survive in Japan, and the species remains critically endangered

Page 177 *Captain Tsubasa* is a very popular manga/anime series about soccer Although technically a boys' manga it had a huge female fan following during its run in the 1980s

Page 178 *Ace wo Nerae!* (Aim for the Ace!) is another popular sports manga/anime, this time about tennis

Page 180 *Koi* is the Japanese word for decorative carp or goldfish, but it also means "love" For this reason, koi fish are often associated with love, in addition to being symbols of general good fortune

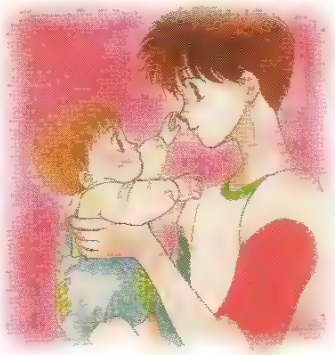
Page 184 In the last panel the cubbyhole is labeled #50, which happens to be written with the same characters that begin Igarashi's name Everything reminds Hosukawa of that girl

Page 189 This scene is a takeoff on a folk tale about a woodcutter who accidentally drops his axe in a lake A god arises from the lake and asks him which axe he dropped his own axe, a silver one, or a golden one When the woodcutter answers truthfully, he's rewarded with all three axes

Here is Greenwood™

When Kazuya Hasukawa's brother married the girl Kazuya loves, he fled to Ryokuto Academy, where he thought life would be simpler. Was he ever wrong! Assigned to Greenwood Dormitory, Kazuya has become the plaything of golden boys Shinobu Tezuka and Mitsuru Ikeda, who ensure that his stay is anything but relaxing!

Not that Mitsuru and Shinobu don't have their own problems. They can't make a simple trip to the ice rink without getting into a rivalry with female twin ice-skating champions. And when a girl from Mitsuru's old school shows up at Greenwood, Mitsuru faces his checkered past as a teenage gang member.



Meanwhile, the home Kazuya left behind has a brand-new resident. It was hard enough for Kazuya to see his brother married to the woman he loves. How will he survive now that the happy couple has a baby?

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